

lt. sing.

1451

i



<36622507380011

S

<36622507380011

Bayer. Staatsbibliothek



284 H

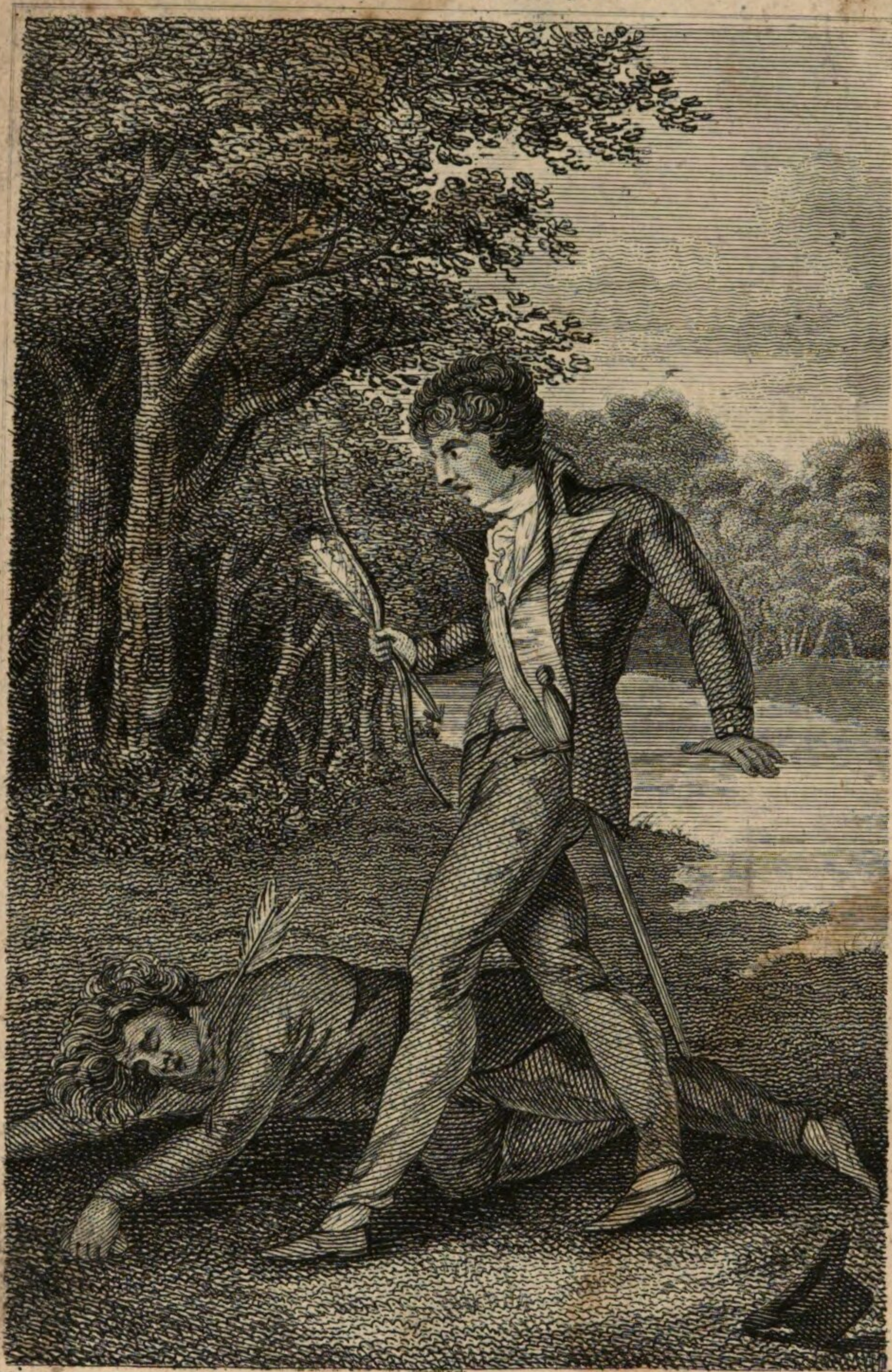
Mt. sing. 1451 i

167



Staatsbibliothek
München

London, Published June 27th 1801, by S. Fisher.



Edwards, del^r

Alpromise, Sculp^r

*Falconer startled on discovering one of the Ship's
Crew killed, with an Arrow stuck in his Throat.*

Page 64.



Drawn by J Roberts, Portrait Painter to his Royal Highness the D. of Clarence. Engraved by Balston.

CAPT.^N FAULKNER, R.

lowest price for this
L.S.

3

4

3

2

3 Buryon
Have
Sunnway
Charrock

THE
VOYAGES, TRAVELS,
DANGEROUS ADVENTURES,
AND
IMMINENT ESCAPES
OF *[d. i. William Rufus Chetwood]*
Capt. Richard Falconer,
OF BURTON IN SOMERSETSHIRE;

WHO
Entered as Master's Mate on board the Albion frigate, bound for Jamaica. The manner of their catching the Dolphin, Shark, and other fish, until they arrive there. From thence our author sails for the bay of Campechy, to barter for log-wood; but in getting up the vessel, falls into the sea; where being a good swimmer, he is drove by the current to an unfrequented island, or sand-bank; on which he endures innumerable hardships, not being able to procure any thing but a few eggs and a little rain-water to subsist on; when, after being several months in this deplorable state, is fortunately relieved by a bark driven there by a violent tempest.

Mr. THOMAS RANDAL, Pilot of Cork, belonging to the bark, relates to Falconer his Voyage, and the singular Adventures he met with, through being shipwrecked in the Baltic, being the only man that escaped with his life; and is afterward taken prisoner by the Indians of Virginia.

FALCONER and the Crew leave the island, and steer back to Jamaica; but before they had sailed many days, were attacked by a dreadful storm, that lasted two days, which drove their bark upon the sands off the South of Cuba Island. They take from the vessel fire-arms, cutlasses, and other necessaries, and explore the country; but in their researches are met with by the Indians—fight them, and relieve some Spaniards, who conduct them to their fort—give them money, and assist them to reach Jamaica; from whence they set sail for England. When near Cape Florida, a large number of canoes full of Indians pursue them; among which they fire their cannon; and although they kill, sink, and overset many, still the rest obstinately follow the vessel, till they are nearly all destroyed; when they set up an hideous yell, and retreat paddling to shore, while FALCONER continues his voyage—arrives safe in England; hears of his father's death, and takes possession of his effects. Goes to Sea again—lands on an island—marches up the country—loses his way—the Ship sails without him. Is taken by the Indians—marries one of their women—offends their law—is tied to a stake to be burnt; but is providentially released.—Loses his Indian wife, makes his Escape with Will, a native of Domingo, and after many more marvellous occurrences and Voyages, concludes his

REMARKABLE HISTORY.

LONDON:

Printed and Sold by S. FISHER, No. 10, St. John's Lane, Clerkenwell; also sold by T. HURST, No. 32, Paternoster-row; and Wilmott and Hill, No. 50, High Street, Borough.

(1801)

Bayerische
Staatsbibliothek
München

6/66/259

Price One Shilling.

This Book was first
Published in 1720
in Small Octavo -
I believe it to be
A Novel - but Giving
a Good Account of
The Manners & Costumes
& Produces of Different
Nations

Bayerische
Staatsbibliothek
München

THE

VOYAGES, TRAVELS,

AND

DANGEROUS ADVENTURES

OF

Captain Richard Falconer.

I WAS born at *Bruton*, a market-town in *Somersetshire*, of respectable parents; my mother died when I was very young; my father, *Richard Falconer*, had been a great traveller in his youth; and having frequently repeated his adventures abroad, inspired me with a strong desire to follow his steps. I often begged he would let me go to sea with some captain of his acquaintance; but he would reply, "*Dick*, stay where you are; you know not the hazards and dangers that attend a maritime life. You shall have a good trade, and that will keep you from a desire of rambling; therefore tell me what calling you like best, that I may immediately put you out in order to your living hereafter. You know that my fortune is but small, and that it will not be possible for me to leave you sufficient to support you without some employment."—"As that is the case," replied I, "and as you have a daughter, she must be provided for; as for our sex, we can best take care for ourselves; and if you please only to fit me out for sea, even in what station you think convenient, it shall be all I desire."—"Son," said my father, "think no more of going to sea, for I'll not have it so. I know it is only a desire of youth prone to change. If I should give you leave, I am assured one week's voyage would make you wish to be at home again." I used all the arguments my young sense prompted me with, but all to no purpose. He was not to be moved; and thus I lived two years longer with him in hopes of his mind altering. At last an accident happened that furthered my desires; and though it was the ruin of our family, I must confess, I was not much concerned.

My father was supervisor of a tax; and having gathered a sum of money, amounting to 3800*l.* in order to pay in to government for the king's use, was robbed of the whole sum by an under exciseman, who made his escape. My father used all possible means to apprehend him without noise, but all his endeavours were fruitless; so finding his affairs in a desperate condition, he resolved to retire to some part of the world where he might be safe from the griping hands of the law. One morning, just before his voluntary exile, he called me before him. "*Dick*," said he, "you have been often desirous of going to sea, and I have always used arguments to dissuade you from it; but now, since what has happened, it being impossible for me to continue upon the place of my birth, the patrimony of my

ancestors, I must even recommend that way of life to you, which I should never have chose, but that the exigency of my affairs will not permit me to provide any other way for you. Here, take this *tool*. which I can ill spare out of my little fortune; but since it is all I can do for you, take it, and may heaven prosper thy undertakings! May the blessing of a father always live with you, whose prayers shall ever be sent to our almighty creator for thy welfare! Here is a letter of recommendation for you to captain *Pultney* of *Bristol*, whose friendship I am sure will be of service to you." He then embraced me with tears in his eyes, gave me his blessing, kissed me, and took his leave for ever, for never have my eyes beheld him since.

I had now nothing more to do but to provide my little equipage in order to go to *Bristol*, to my father's friend. I packed up my things in a portmanteau, and gave them to an old servant of my father's, who would see me as far as *Bristol* for his sake. We set out in the morning, and reached it by noon. I inquired for captain *Pultney*, and soon found him out. I acquainted him who I was, and gave him my father's letter. He read it, and received me very kindly.

"*Falconer*," said the captain, "I am sorry for your father's misfortunes, which he tells me in his letter you will inform me of." After I had related to him every circumstance, he told me he would provide for me as soon as possible, and till then I should be as welcome to him as his own son. "In the mean time," said he, "I would have you verse yourself in the mathematics, which may be of use to you. I'll provide you a master and instruments;" which he accordingly did; and as I had some small knowledge of it which I learned at school, apart from my other studies, I soon attained to the theory of it.

1689 After I had run through the whole course, and the captain was informed I was capable, he got me the appointment of mate (or rather assistant) on board the *Albion* frigate, captain *Wase* commander; and on the second of *May*, 1689, we set sail, bound for *Jamaica*, with a fair wind. As soon as we lost sight of land, I began to be extremely sea-sick, and bore the jests of the sailors but indifferently, who cried, "there's an excellent master's mate, he'll hit *Jamaica* to a hair, if the island were no bigger than the bung-hole of a cask." But in a day or two I was perfectly well, and was never troubled with that sickness afterward.

We had nothing material happened to us till we entered the Bay of *Biscay*, where we encountered with a dreadful storm; the billows ran mountains high, and our vessel seemed to be the sport of the waves; a ship that overtook us the day before, and accompanied us, though it were not at half a furlong's distance, was sometimes lost, through the height of the waves. The storm continued with this violence three days, and at last abated something of its fierceness, but still blew very hard. The other vessel, by firing a gun, and making a signal, made it appear she was in distress, but the sea ran so high it was impossible to give them any assistance, yet we bore down to them (being to wind-

ward) as nigh as we could without danger to ourselves. We inquired into the matter, and found they had sprung a leak; they had all hands to pump by turns, but yet the water gained on them. They begged us to hoist out our boat (their own being staved) to give them succour upon occasion; accordingly we put out our long boat, with two of our men in it, but the rope that held her to the ship broke by the violence of the waves, and drove away with the two unfortunate men in her; and what became of them we could never learn; but undoubtedly they perished by the sea, or hunger, we being twenty leagues from any shore. The ship, after prodigious labour of the sailors, and in less than ten minutes, sunk to the bottom; out of fifty-seven men, only four were saved, and they, by good fortune, laid hold on ropes we threw out for that purpose; but it had not been possible to save any, if we had not bore down to leeward when we saw them in the last extremity. And here we ought to admire at providence; for this very vessel was a pirate, one captain *Jones* commander, who in an open large boat set out for *Dover*, and near *Ostend* stole upon a *French* vessel in the night, murdered the captain and some others, and set all the sailors ashore that would not embrace their designs, and had resolved to attack us as soon as the storm was over. The four men that were saved, were three *Englishmen* and one *Frenchman*, who said they were forced, with several others, by the above-mentioned captain *Jones*, to take to that course of life; but whether true or false, I cannot tell; indeed they behaved themselves very well with us all the voyage, and were entered into our books as four of the ship's crew, instead of two we left on shore, who were not to be found when we set sail, and the two poor wretches that were lost in the boat. The storm still continued, but the wind fair, so we ran it away with a rived foresail all night, and the next morning we had a violent storm of rain, and some thunder; but about noon the sky cleared up, the rain ceased, and the tempest was laid; the wind however continuing fair with a middling gale.

May the 28th, we discovered the *Canaries*, and the peak of *Teneriff*, and passed this island, or rather rock, of a prodigious height. At night the wind rose again, and continued to blow very hard for two days. As I was walking on the deck one morning, my cheek was saluted with a fish which dropped down. I took it up, panting at the gills for life; it proved to be a flying fish, pursued, as I supposed, by some dolphin, or albacore. The manner of these fishes avoiding their enemies, is jumping out of the water, and flying till their fins are dry, then fall down again into the sea. The dolphin that chases them, is one of the finest coloured fishes that swim. We caught one of them with a fizgig, an instrument made of several rows of iron spikes, bearded like hooks, and a staff four or five feet long to it; to this they tie a cord of a great length, and dart it with all their strength; the wounded fish immediately flies downward many fathoms, and up again, which the darter observes,

giving him rope and play till his weakness makes him more tame; then they draw him up the ship's side, and cut him in pieces. The first we caught in this manner was about six feet long, which we dressed, and part of it served the whole ship's company for dinner; as soon as it was caught, it lost that beautiful colour it had in the water; as for my own part, notwithstanding their praising it, I had rather eat a mackarel or a herring than this rare fish. Sharks are taken as we take common fish, only the hook is about two feet long, and an iron chain above that about four feet long, and a long rope to that; they generally bait the hook with a piece of beef, about three or four pounds weight, which the voracious fish swallows immediately, hook and all; then they give him play awhile, and when he is pretty well spent, they draw him in with a tackle. A person always stands ready with an axe to make a separation between his tail and his body, otherwise he would give such large thumps with it that might do the ship damage; I myself was thrown down only with a touch of it. This that we took, had in its paunch the collar-bone of a man and a boatswain's silver whistle, with a red ribbon in it, entire, not so much as bruised, which was given to me as a present, to make me amends for the fall I received. We passed the *Tropic*, attended by the *Tropic* birds, a fowl something bigger than a pigeon.

July the third, our man at the topmast-head, instead of crying land, as we expected, called out, "a sail! a sail!" which in a quarter of an hour we discovered plainly upon deck. We did not know what to think of it; we knew we were near land, and consequently in fear of those pirates, or buccaniers, that infest those coasts. Our captain called all hands aloft, and addressed us with, "Gentlemen, 'tis ten to one, but this vessel we see may be a pirate; if so, how must we behave ourselves? If you are resolved to stand it, I'll stand it to the last; if not, we'll surrender without firing a gun, which may induce them to be civil to us." The sailors cried, "let's fight them, let's fight them." With that we put our chests into the hold, and brought up our hammocks, to place them in the netting on the quarter-deck. We cleared our guns, which were twelve, and mustered our men, which amounted to thirty-eight, passengers and all, who were as willing to fight as any of us, they having something on board that was valuable. We kept our way, and the ship bore up to us with all the sail she could make. Night coming upon us, our man at the topmast-head discovered land, and another ship to the windward of us. Upon that, we called another council, and persisted in our first opinion of fighting; but yet to use all means possible of making to shore, which was *Barbadoes*. But for all our endeavours, the first ship got up with us, and about twelve o'clock at night hailed us, and commanded us to hoist out our boat, and to come on board him, with our captain. We answered that we had no boat (as indeed we had not), but we told him, if he would stay till morning, something might be done. At last he threatened to sink us, if we did not send our

captain on board immediately; and thereupon fired a gun, which struck our vessel on her quarter. With that we fired our broadside upon him, accompanied with some small arms; which they little expecting, I believe did some damage, and put them in confusion. Whereupon we tacked about, and with our six guns raked her fore and aft; but was immediately seconded with a broad-side from them, which killed two of our men, and wounded a third. Upon which, with loud huzzas and firing, they immediately boarded us on our starboard quarter, and poured into us at least fourscore men. We resisted them with all the force we had, but all to no purpose; they drove us into the fore-castle, where, by good chance, we made shift to barricade ourselves; but they threatened to turn our own guns upon us, if we did not surrender immediately. Our captain being resolute, ordered us to fire upon them with our small arms. Now we had under the gratings, close to the steerage, a large cistern, lined with tin, where we had unthinkingly placed several carriages of powder, but happily for us, whether it was our firing, or in the bustle some match dropt in, I know not, but the powder took fire, blew up the gratings, with some part of the quarter-deck, and thirty of the enemy, at least, into the air. Upon that we sallied out, and drove the rest, with our cutlasses, into their own vessel again, with the loss of several. But this signified little, for with the fall and breach of our quarter-deck, the powder-room was entirely stopped up; nor could we, without great difficulty, clear it from the lumber; so that we had not any powder but what was in the men's cartridges, for their muskets. However, we fired briskly with them; yet nevertheless they prepared to board us again, with all the menaces imaginable. This fight continued at least four hours, and the dawn began to break upon us, which discovered to us the other ship we saw over night, and we distinguished *English* colours. Upon that we gave a great shout, and fired our small arms again. The enemy no sooner saw the ship with *English* colours, but they cut off their grappling-irons, and used their utmost endeavour to make off, but their rigging was so shattered, that their sails could not be hoisted. In the mean time the other ship came up to us, and, without hailing, poured a broadside into the pirate, and then followed a desperate fight between them. As for our ship, it was of little use, so we steered off, and cleared our gun-room, and in half an hour (the fight continuing all that while) we had charged our great guns, and returned to the fight; but upon the instant we saw the pirate sinking; the *English* ship had tore a hole between wind and water, so that she sunk in a moment, and but eight men were saved, who told us their captain was a pirate from *Guadaloupe*; that when they were sinking, they had not above twenty men left, out of an hundred and sixty; and most of them wounded. The ship that gave us this seasonable rescue, was the *Guernsey* frigate, whose station was *Barbadoes*. We lay by for an hour or two, to repair our rigging, &c. and hailed her, desiring them to send a boat on board for our captain, because we were with-

out one, which they accordingly did. Captain *Wase* and I immediately went on board, to pay our respects to their commander, who received us with all imaginable civility. We had on board our ship seven sailors and one passenger killed, and four wounded. The *Guernsey* had sixteen men killed, and three wounded. The captain invited us to dine with him, which we did; where we were treated with a new dish (at least to me) called a *pollo*, that is, fowls boiled with rice and salt pork, which was very palatable. We took our leave of the captain, and went on board of our own vessel; and at five o'clock in the evening (*July 4*), after saluting the town, cast anchor in *Carlisle Bay*. *July* the 20th, after our captain had left his passengers, and part of his cargo, we set sail for *Jamaica*. We passed *Martinico*, *Dominica*, *Guadaloupe*, and *Antigua*; and the first of *August* anchored at *Mevis*, where we had immediately the friends of our slain passenger, Mr. *Daniel Thompson*, merchant, on board us, to unlade the goods; for they had heard of his death, by a vessel from *Barbadoes*, a week before.

Here I was saluted with a little fly, called a musketo; and though it is so small, yet it has a devilish sharp sting with it. They get into our stockings, and are so very troublesome to new comers, that there's hardly any bearing of them. If you scratch the places stung by them till the blood comes, it may prove dangerous. I myself kept a sore leg three months upon that account. I was also informed there was a flea they call *chigos*, which breeds in dust or ashes; and of all the insects in the *Charibbees*, this is the most dangerous; they get into the nails of the toes imperceptibly, and from thence run all over the body, though they chiefly fix themselves in the bottom of the feet, which occasions an itching, followed with holes in the skin. They make blisters as big as peas in the flesh, where their young ones are breeding, cause ulcers and rotten flesh, which there is no remedy for but to eat away the part with aqua fortis and burnt alum. While we lay here, there was a sword-fish ran himself a-shore, which was supposed to be done in eagerly chasing some other fish. It had no scales, but a dusky skin, and a white belly, rough like a smith's file; a flat head, two fins on one side, two on the back, and one instead of a tail. It is a fish of prodigious swiftness. The sword, which is fixed in the head, is six, seven, and sometimes eight feet long; near his eyes are two nostrils, out of which he throws the water a great height into the air. This fish often encounters with the whale, and proves too hard for him; for with his sword he rips him up. I bought one of these swords of a poor inhabitant, for four bottles of *English* beer, which is a great rarity among them, that he got in a piece of wreck, but thrust in so far, that the end, in getting out, was broke three inches.

Next to *Mevis*, lies *St. Christopher's* (or, as we generally call it *St. Kitt's*) in seventeen degrees, twenty minutes northward of the Equinoctial. It is twenty-five leagues in circumference, the soil light and sandy, and produces fruit common with us in *England*. In the middle of this island rises an high mountain,

captain on board immediately; and thereupon fired a gun, which struck our vessel on her quarter. With that we fired our broadside upon him, accompanied with some small arms; which they little expecting, I believe did some damage, and put them in confusion. Whereupon we tacked about, and with our six guns raked her fore and aft; but was immediately seconded with a broad-side from them, which killed two of our men, and wounded a third. Upon which, with loud huzzas and firing, they immediately boarded us on our starboard quarter, and poured into us at least fourscore men. We resisted them with all the force we had, but all to no purpose; they drove us into the fore-castle, where, by good chance, we made shift to barricade ourselves; but they threatened to turn our own guns upon us, if we did not surrender immediately. Our captain being resolute, ordered us to fire upon them with our small arms. Now we had under the gratings, close to the steerage, a large cistern, lined with tin, where we had unthinkingly placed several carriages of powder, but happily for us, whether it was our firing, or in the bustle some match dropt in, I know not, but the powder took fire, blew up the gratings, with some part of the quarter-deck, and thirty of the enemy, at least, into the air. Upon that we sallied out, and drove the rest, with our cutlasses, into their own vessel again, with the loss of several. But this signified little, for with the fall and breach of our quarter-deck, the powder-room was entirely stopped up; nor could we, without great difficulty, clear it from the lumber; so that we had not any powder but what was in the men's cartridges, for their muskets. However, we fired briskly with them; yet nevertheless they prepared to board us again, with all the menaces imaginable. This fight continued at least four hours, and the dawn began to break upon us, which discovered to us the other ship we saw over night, and we distinguished *English* colours. Upon that we gave a great shout, and fired our small arms again. The enemy no sooner saw the ship with *English* colours, but they cut off their grappling-irons, and used their utmost endeavour to make off, but their rigging was so shattered, that their sails could not be hoisted. In the mean time the other ship came up to us, and, without hailing, poured a broadside into the pirate, and then followed a desperate fight between them. As for our ship, it was of little use, so we steered off, and cleared our gun-room, and in half an hour (the fight continuing all that while) we had charged our great guns, and returned to the fight; but upon the instant we saw the pirate sinking; the *English* ship had tore a hole between wind and water, so that she sunk in a moment, and but eight men were saved, who told us their captain was a pirate from *Guadaloupe*; that when they were sinking, they had not above twenty men left, out of an hundred and sixty; and most of them wounded. The ship that gave us this seasonable rescue, was the *Guernsey* frigate, whose station was *Barbadoes*. We lay by for an hour or two, to repair our rigging, &c. and hailed her, desiring them to send a boat on board for our captain, because we were with-

stocked with cattle, as horses, cows, and asses; there have been many mules, but the inhabitants made so little use of them, that now there are but few. Sheep are large and tall, their meat indifferently good, but their fleece worth nothing. Goats are without number, being a beast peculiar to the country. Hogs, both wild and tame, in abundance. I have been hunting the wild hog in *Porto Morant Bay*. and it gives good diversion, though sometimes dangerous. You go with ten or a dozen in company, armed with a musket and a cutlass; as soon as ever, with your dogs, you have found them out, you all take aim, and fire as quick as you can; but if you don't kill them immediately, they set upon you open-mouthed, so that you must either hew them down with your cutlasses, or club your muskets. Generally as soon as you have them, you flay them as you do mutton, and barbicue them, even in the very place where you kill them; that is, you dig a square hole in the earth, then clap four stakes at each corner, and on them put your meat; then make a fire under it; and when one side is done, turn the other. For tame fowls, they have of all the kind that we have in *England*, beside Guinea hens, parrots, parachetes, machaws, and boobies (which are boobies, for they will sit upon a tree or post till you come and take them). They have three crops a year in this island, and the trees are always green. They have three sorts of bread, one of *English* corn, another of *Guinea* wheat, and the third made from a root they call casavi, which is rank poison till pressed and baked in an oven; 'tis very white, but tasteless, and the bread made of it the size of our thin oat-cakes. But of all the fruit this island produces, the pine-apple is the best, which grows very low, with leaves something like the *Indicus ficus* that I have seen in gardens here in *England*; the taste is so excellent, that I know not what to compare it to, it having the relish of all fine flavoured fruits. There is a fruit grows upon a low bush, called the prickly pear, the inside of which is red, and on the top is a little thorny thing like a star, which if you do not take away before you eat it, may prove pernicious. If you eat but two of this fruit, it will make your urine as red as blood. Plantains are very good fruit, which is, when baked in the ashes, used by the slaves instead of bread; 'tis a fruit with a skin on it, like our beans, which is taken off, and then the fruit appears like a *Bologna* sausage. Bannanas is another fruit something of the same kind, but shorter, and more luscious. Both these fruits are ripe all the year, for when some are fit to gather, others are green, and some in bud. The oranges and lemons are neither of them good, in my opinion; but their limes are wonderful; they grow upon a tree full of thorns, where you must be sure to prick your fingers, if you'll gather them. These, with spring water and sugar, made the chief of my liquor while we staid there. The potatoes are very fine here, exceeding, in my opinion, even those of *Ireland*. Then there's another root, called yams, something like a *Jerusalem* artichoke, but larger and stringy. The onions of *Jamaica*

are much milder and better tasted than our *English* onions, and very wholesome; they used to make a great addition to our crogick brewis; that is, bisket soaked in fair water for some time, then the water thrown away, and the bisket strewed over with salt, oil, and lime-juice, together with onions; and so eaten as a dainty dish. There is a sensitive plant in this island; the stalk, surrounded with leaves full of dark red spots, bears a sweet smelling violet-coloured flower; the leaves, as soon as touched, close up together, and die; and accordingly as they are held in the hand a longer or a shorter time, this alteration continues. Ginger grows plentiful here; the male plant (for there are sexes) hath generally bigger screws than the female; the stalks, which are without knots, have more leaves upward than downward, and spread along the earth, still taking roots anew. When the leaves wither, then the ginger is commonly ripe, but it has not that poignancy while green as when dried. The cotton of this place (of which the cloths and hammocks are made, and vended in most parts of the western world) grows on a tree about the height of a peach tree, with a strait stem or body, out of which shoot boughs of an equal length, and at equal distances; between the leaves, which are narrow and long, grow red flowers, and from them oval cods, which, when ripe, inclose the cotton, and a seed like pepper. Of hurtful creatures, there is the crocodile, or alligator, which infests many rivers and ponds. This is a creature of a monstrous size. I have seen one twenty-six feet long; it moves swiftly and strongly forward, but turns slow; they are impenetrable every where but in the eye or belly; they have four feet or fins, with which they go or swim; their usual way of getting their food is to lie on their backs as dead, then with a sudden onset they spring upon their prey, whether man or beast; but 'tis easily avoided by a man, by reason of an aromatic smell that comes from the body, which may be smelt five hundred yards off; but if a man has got a cold, and can't smell, if he has eyes, they're easily avoided; for if they run right forward, it is but slipping on one side, for they are as long in turning as a coach. The oil that's made from these creatures is good for several distempers. They lay their eggs, which are about the size of a turkey's, and cover them with sand, which, heated by the sun's beams, hatches the young ones, who naturally creep into the water. One of these creatures swam after us fifty yards in *Porto Morant* Bay, and raised his head upon the edge of our long-boat, which was deeply laden with casks of water. Our carpenter, who had been felling timber to wood the ship, struck him a very hard blow on the nose with his hatchet, which I am sure hurt him, for he gave a sort of shriek, which nobody ever heard before, and swam to shore; where I observed him to run his head into the mud, as if it pained him, which makes me think that their heads are not invulnerable, as reported. The guana is another creature, amphibious like the alligator, but nothing nigh so large. There's an island near *Jamaica*, called *Guana* island, inhabited by

stocked with cattle, as horses, cows, and asses; there have been many mules, but the inhabitants made so little use of them, that now there are but few. Sheep are large and tall, their meat indifferently good, but their fleece worth nothing. Goats are without number, being a beast peculiar to the country. Hogs, both wild and tame, in abundance. I have been hunting the wild hog in *Porto Morant Bay*. and it gives good diversion, though sometimes dangerous. You go with ten or a dozen in company, armed with a musket and a cutlass; as soon as ever, with your dogs, you have found them out, you all take aim, and fire as quick as you can; but if you don't kill them immediately, they set upon you open-mouthed, so that you must either hew them down with your cutlasses, or club your muskets. Generally as soon as you have them, you flay them as you do mutton, and barbicue them, even in the very place where you kill them; that is, you dig a square hole in the earth, then clap four stakes at each corner, and on them put your meat; then make a fire under it; and when one side is done, turn the other. For tame fowls, they have of all the kind that we have in *England*, beside Guinea hens, parrots, parachetes, machaws, and boobies (which are boobies, for they will sit upon a tree or post till you come and take them). They have three crops a year in this island, and the trees are always green. They have three sorts of bread, one of *English* corn, another of *Guinea* wheat, and the third made from a root they call casavi, which is rank poison till pressed and baked in an oven; 'tis very white, but tasteless, and the bread made of it the size of our thin oat-cakes. But of all the fruit this island produces, the pine-apple is the best, which grows very low, with leaves something like the *Indicus ficus* that I have seen in gardens here in *England*; the taste is so excellent, that I know not what to compare it to, it having the relish of all fine flavoured fruits. There is a fruit grows upon a low bush, called the prickly pear, the inside of which is red, and on the top is a little thorny thing like a star, which if you do not take away before you eat it, may prove pernicious. If you eat but two of this fruit, it will make your urine as red as blood. Plantains are very good fruit, which is, when baked in the ashes, used by the slaves instead of bread; 'tis a fruit with a skin on it, like our beans, which is taken off, and then the fruit appears like a *Bologna* sausage. Bannanas is another fruit something of the same kind, but shorter, and more luscious. Both these fruits are ripe all the year, for when some are fit to gather, others are green, and some in bud. The oranges and lemons are neither of them good, in my opinion; but their limes are wonderful; they grow upon a tree full of thorns, where you must be sure to prick your fingers, if you'll gather them. These, with spring water and sugar, made the chief of my liquor while we staid there. The potatoes are very fine here, exceeding, in my opinion, even those of *Ireland*. Then there's another root, called yams, something like a *Jerusalem* artichoke, but larger and stringy. The onions of *Jamaica*

are much milder and better tasted than our *English* onions, and very wholesome; they used to make a great addition to our crogick brewis; that is, bisket soaked in fair water for some time, then the water thrown away, and the bisket strewed over with salt, oil, and lime-juice, together with onions; and so eaten as a dainty dish. There is a sensitive plant in this island; the stalk, surrounded with leaves full of dark red spots, bears a sweet smelling violet-coloured flower; the leaves, as soon as touched, close up together, and die; and accordingly as they are held in the hand a longer or a shorter time, this alteration continues. Ginger grows plentiful here; the male plant (for there are sexes) hath generally bigger screws than the female; the stalks, which are without knots, have more leaves upward than downward, and spread along the earth, still taking roots anew. When the leaves wither, then the ginger is commonly ripe, but it has not that poignancy while green as when dried. The cotton of this place (of which the cloths and hammocks are made, and vended in most parts of the western world) grows on a tree about the height of a peach tree, with a strait stem or body, out of which shoot boughs of an equal length, and at equal distances; between the leaves, which are narrow and long, grow red flowers, and from them oval cods, which, when ripe, inclose the cotton, and a seed like pepper. Of hurtful creatures, there is the crocodile, or alligator, which infests many rivers and ponds. This is a creature of a monstrous size. I have seen one twenty-six feet long; it moves swiftly and strongly forward, but turns slow; they are impenetrable every where but in the eye or belly; they have four feet or fins, with which they go or swim; their usual way of getting their food is to lie on their backs as dead, then with a sudden onset they spring upon their prey, whether man or beast; but 'tis easily avoided by a man, by reason of an aromatic smell that comes from the body, which may be smelt five hundred yards off; but if a man has got a cold, and can't smell, if he has eyes, they're easily avoided; for if they run right forward, it is but slipping on one side, for they are as long in turning as a coach. The oil that's made from these creatures is good for several distempers. They lay their eggs, which are about the size of a turkey's, and cover them with sand, which, heated by the sun's beams, hatches the young ones, who naturally creep into the water. One of these creatures swam after us fifty yards in *Porto Morant* Bay, and raised his head upon the edge of our long-boat, which was deeply laden with casks of water. Our carpenter, who had been felling timber to wood the ship, struck him a very hard blow on the nose with his hatchet, which I am sure hurt him, for he gave a sort of shriek, which nobody ever heard before, and swam to shore; where I observed him to run his head into the mud, as if it pained him, which makes me think that their heads are not invulnerable, as reported. The guana is another creature, amphibious like the alligator, but nothing nigh so large. There's an island near *Jamaica*, called *Guana* island, inhabited by

nothing else; our seamen eat these latter, but much good may it do them, for their flesh looks like a piece of a blackamoor's arm. The cocoa nut is a fruit that is both meat, drink, and clothing to the natives (I mean the Blacks); the rind served for weaving of cloths, even before they knew the *Europeans*; and when you have taken off the bark, you must be beholden to a saw to cut off the monkey's face, which is the top, with three marks that make it something resemble that animal; then the inside contains, first, a liquid substance like whey, but very sweet; after you have taken out this liquor, round the nut is a substance a quarter of an inch thick, which you cut out, and that is the meat, which is very delicious and grateful to the taste, but not wholesome if eaten in too large a quantity. There is another thing that is very remarkable, and that is the physic nut, much of the taste of our pig nut, but one or two of them will do your business, upward or downward, as well as Dr. *Anodyne's* necklace sugar-plums. As I was going one day to dine with captain *Kendal* (a gentleman inhabitant within a mile of the bay of *Porto Morant*), attended by a black servant of his, I saw in a hedge a fair apple growing on a bush, which I readily gathered, and was conveying to my mouth, but was prevented by the Black's giving me a blow on the hand, which struck it from me. I immediately drew my sword in the scabbard, and fell to belabour the poor fellow for his insolence; for having been familiar with him, and talked to him along the road, I thought he made our *English* proverb true, *if you give an inch, they'll take an ell*; but it seemed the fellow saved my life by it, for this fruit, which was called a mangineel apple, was rank poison, but what I had never seen or heard of before. I was so concerned for the blows I had given the poor fellow, that I gave him a dollar to make him amends. I remember I was afterward washing myself at a river in the same bay, and it raining very hard, I went under a tree, to save my clothes from being wet, and in placing them together in a cavity of the shore the drops of rain fell on a mangineel tree, and so on my back, but in less than half an hour my flesh burned very hot, and white blisters appeared upon my skin, insomuch that I was in a high fever; but a native of the place being with me, he ran for salt water, and washed me all over, and afterward got some oil, and dipped my shirt in it, and put it on my back, which gave me ease immediately; but the spots remained upon my skin several years afterward. One of our common sailors, by eating two or three of these apples, died in three days raving mad. This island was first discovered by *Columbus*, *Anno Dom.* 1499.

Now finding our affairs would detain us a year longer, I got leave of the captain to go in a sloop, with some of my acquaintance, to get logwood; and on *September* the 25th we set sail for the bay of *Campechy*, with a fair wind. We sailed before the wind six days together toward the bay, but on the seventh the clouds darkened, and the welkin seemed all on fire, by times, with lightning, and the thunder roared louder than ever

I heard it in my life; in short, a dreadful hurricane was approaching. The sailors had furled their sails, and lowered their top masts, waiting for it under a double-reefed fore-sail; which at last came with most extreme violence. The storm lasted most furiously for three hours, and at last insensibly abated, till it was quite calm, not one breath of wind stirring, nor any sign of one, but a little froth on the surface. After it was over, we loosened our sails, in expectation of the wind, which in half an hour stole out again, as if frightened at the violent storm. About six in the evening we saw a water-spout. This is an aerial engine, or limbeck, that draws up the salt water of the sea, and distills it into fresh showers of rain. This cloud comes down in form of a pipe of lead of a vast thickness, and by the force of the sea sucks up a great quantity of water. I stood an hour to observe it. After it had continued about half an hour in the water, it drew up insensibly, by degrees, till it was lost in the clouds; but in the closing of the same, it shot out some of the water, which fell into the sea again with a noise like that of thunder, and occasioned a smoke in the water that lasted for a considerable time. The sailors informed me, that these water-spouts sometimes did great damage to ships that by calms were too near them when they fell. One fellow told me, that he saw a bark of sixty tons sucked out of the sea by one of them, which caused the breaking of the spout, and sunk the vessel with the fall of the waters. In the Streights, when ships approach these airy engines, they fire off a gun, and that breaks them before they come too near. A person told me, that at the fall of the water, the sea was curled as much as if you had thrown a large stone into a standing pond of water. In the evening we caught a small shark, with two sucking fishes, which stuck close to her till laid on the deck, and then dropped down of their own accord. This is called the *remora* of the ancients. It is about the bigness of a mackarel, with a flat head, and is of a grisly substance. These very frequently stick to the sides of vessels, sometimes swim upon the surface of the water, and are even caught with a naked hook. I have sometimes seen these fishes sticking to a log of wood in the water. When we hogged our ship (a hog is an instrument of six feet square, something like a harrow, with stumps of old brooms fixed close in the middle part; this is put to the bottom of the ship, with a rope before and another aft, fixed to the capstand, which cleans the vessel from all sorts of filth), I have seen many of them in the hog together, with barnacles and oysters, and several other shell-fish.

October the 6th, we anchored at *Trist Island*, in the bay of *Campechy*, and sent our men on shore at *Logwood Creek*, to seek for the logwood-cutters, who immediately came on board. A bargain was soon struck, and in exchange for our rum and sugar, and a little money, we got in our lading in eight days, and set sail for *Jamaica* the 15th of October.

Now the getting up to *Jamaica* again generally takes up two

months, because we are obliged to ply it all the way to windward. One day, it being stark calm, I went into the water to wash myself; but first I tied a rope about me, for fear of any accident that might happen, or the wind striking up on a sudden. But I had not been long in the water before they cried out from the gunwale, "a shark!" But thinking they only bantered, as sometimes they did when any one was in the water, I did not mind them, till at last they pulled me by main force up the side of the ship; when looking into the water, I saw a swimming large shark, with his white belly turned up in order to bite at me. Upon which I thanked God and my good friends that had prevented him, by swiftly pulling me up; though the rope had rubbed off the flesh, with the force. A shark cannot get his prey, without first turning itself upon its back, because their upper jaw is much larger and longer than their under; which often prevents accidents.

I one day went down into the hold, to bottle off a small parcel of wine that I had there, for fear it would sour; and not being a very cleanly place, I was soon in a filthy pickle. Coming upon deck again, I wanted to clean myself, but did not care to go into the water, as before, so went into the boat a-stern, that we hoisted overboard in the morning to look after a wreck that we discovered upon the water. Being in the boat, I began to wash myself; and when I had dressed myself again, I pulled a book out of my pocket, and sat reading in the boat; when, before I was aware, a storm began to rise, so that I could not get up the ship's side as usual, but called for the ladder of ropes, that hangs over the ship's quarter, in order to get up that way; but whether it was not fastened above, or whether it broke through rottenness, as being seldom used, I cannot tell, but down I fell into the sea; and though the ship tacked about to take me up, yet I lost sight of them, through the duskiness of the evening, and the storm together. I had now the most dismal fears that could ever possess any one in my condition. I was forced to drive with the wind, which fortunately sat with the current; and having kept myself above water, as near as I could guess in this fright, four hours, I felt my feet every now and then touch ground; and at last, by a great wave, was thrown and left upon the sand; yet it being dark, I knew not what to do; but I got up and walked, as well as my tired limbs would let me; and every now and then was overtaken by the waves, but not high enough to wash me away. When I had got far enough, as I thought, to be out of danger, I could not discover any thing of land, and I immediately conjectured that it was but some bank of sand, which the sea would overflow at high tide; whereupon I sat down to rest my weary limbs, and fit myself for death, for that was all I could expect, in my own opinion. At last I fell asleep, though I tried all I could against it, by rising up and walking, till I was obliged through weariness to lie down again. In the morning when I waked, I was amazed to find myself among four or five very low sandy islands, but all

separated half a mile or more, as I guessed, by the sea. With that I began to be a little cheerful, and walked about to see if I could find any thing that was eatable, but to my great grief I found nothing but a few eggs, that I was obliged to eat raw; this laid my condition before my eyes in a most horrid manner, and the fear of starving seemed to me to be worse than that of drowning; and oft did I wish that the sea had swallowed me, rather than thrown me on this desolate island; for I could perceive, by the unevenness of them, that they were not inhabited either by man or beast, or any thing else but rats, and several sorts of fowl.

Upon this island there were some few bushes of a wood they called *Burton* wood, which used to be my shelter at night; but to complete my misery, there was not to be found one drop of fresh water on the island; so that I was forced to drink my own urine for two or three days together; which made my skin come off like the peel of a boiled codlin. I had lived a week here upon eggs only, when, by good fortune, upon a bush I discovered a booby sitting. I ran immediately, and with a stick knocked him down. I never considered whether it was proper to eat or no, but I sucked the blood, and ate the flesh, with such a pleasure as none can express but those who have felt the pain of hunger to the same degree as myself. After I had devoured this banquet, I walked about, and discovered many more of these birds, which I slew. My stomach being pretty well appeased, I began to consider whether I could not, with two sticks, make a fire, as I had seen the Blacks do in *Jamaica*. I tried with all the wood I could get, and at last happily accomplished it. This done, I gathered some more sticks, and made a fire; picked several of my boobies, and broiled them as well as I could; and now I resolved to come to an allowance. This bird is a water fowl, about the bigness of a large crow, of a grey colour; it has a long strong bill, and feet like a duck; to which fowl I thought its flesh tasted similar, but stronger, and a little fishy; and it is such a booby, that it will not get out of your way without beating. At night, I and the rest of my fellow-inhabitants had a great storm of rain and thunder, with the reddest lightning I had ever seen, which well washed us all, I believe; as for myself, my clothes (which were only a pair of thin shoes and thread stockings, and a cotton waistcoat and breeches) were thoroughly wet; but I had this happiness, to find in the morning several cavities of rain water, which put a thought in my head of making a deep well, or hollow place, that I might have water continually by me; which I brought to perfection in this manner: I took a piece of wood found on the island, and pitched upon a place under a *Burton* tree, where, with my hands and the stick together, I dug a hole, or well, big enough to contain a hoghead of water; then put in stones, and paved it, and got in and stamped them down hard all round, and with my stick beat the sides close, so that I made it very apable of holding water for a considerable time. But now the

difficulty was, how to get the water there, which at last I contrived very well, for with my shirt I effected it, by soaking it in water for some time, and then afterward it would bear it very well; so with this holland bucket I could carry two gallons of water at a time, which would not leak out above a pint, for two hundred yards; so that in two days time I had filled my well.

I now began to think of life again for a while, for I had ready broiled forty of these boobies, designing to allow myself half a one a day. What most amazed me, and at the same time pleased me, was, that my boobies continued sweet, without the least taint. I remained always in good health, only a little troubled with the head-ache, for want of a hat, which I lost in the water, in falling down from the ladder of ropes. But I remedied this as well as I could, by gathering a parcel of chicken-weed (which grows there in plenty), and strewing it over the *Burton* bushes. Nay at last, finding my time might be longer there than I expected, I tore off one of the sleeves of my shirt, and lined a wooden cap that I had made of green sprigs, and twisted with the green bark that I peeled off; so that if I had been seen in this figure, I should have appeared like a madman, with the basket of a cudgel upon his head.

I had been here now a month by my reckoning, and in that time my skin looked as if it had been rubbed over with walnut-shells. I had a mind several times to have swam to one of the other islands; but as they looked only like heaps of sand, I thought I had got the best birth, so contented myself with my own station. Boobies I could get enough (who built upon the ground), and another bird that laid the eggs which I used to eat, but I never ventured to taste them; though as their eggs were good, we may suppose their flesh was so too; but, however, I was so well satisfied with my boobies, that I did not care to try experiments. One morning (which I took to be the 8th of *November*) a violent storm arose, which continued till noon; when in the mean time I observed a bark labouring with the waves for several hours, and at last, through the violence of the tempest, was completely thrown out of the water upon the shore, within a quarter of a mile from the place where I observed them. I ran to see if there was any body whom I could assist, where I found four men (all that were in the vessel) busy about saving what they could out of her. When I came up to them, and hailed them in *English*, they seemed mightily surprised; they asked me how I came, and how long I had been there? When I told them my story, they were all highly concerned for themselves, as well as for me, for they found there was no possibility of getting their bark off the sands, the wind having forced her so far. Upon that we began to bemoan one another's misfortunes; but I must confess, I was never more rejoiced in my whole life; for they had on board plenty of every thing for a twelvemonth, and not the least article spoiled. Their lading (which was logwood) they had thrown overboard to lighten the ship, which was the occasion of the

wind forcing her so far. Had they kept in their lading, they would have bulged in the sands half a quarter of a mile from the place where they did; and the sea flying over them, would not only have spoilt their provisions, but perhaps been the death of them all. By these men I understood where we were, *viz.* upon one of the isles of *Alcranes*, which are five islands, or rather large banks of sand (for there is not a tree or bush upon any but that where we were); they lay in the latitude of twenty-two degrees north, twenty-five leagues from *Jucatan*, and about sixty from *Campechy* town. We worked as fast as we could, and got out every thing that would be useful to us before night. We had six barrels of salt beef, three of pork, two of pease, two of flour, and eleven barrels of bisket; a small copper, and iron pot; several wearing clothes, and a spare hat, which I wanted very much. We had beside several kegs of rum, one of brandy, and a chest of sugar, with many other things of use; some gun-powder, and one fowling-piece. We took off the sails from the yards, and with some pieces of timber erected a tent big enough to hold twenty men, under which we put their beds, that we got from the bark. It is true, we had no shelter from the weather, for the trees were so low they were of no use to us. I now thought myself in a palace, and was as lively as if I had been at *Jamaica*, or even at home in my own country; I could joke now and then, and tell a merry tale. In short, when we had been there some time, we began to be very easy, and to wait contentedly till providence should fetch us out of this island. The bark lay upon the sands, fifty yards from the water when at the highest, so that I used to lye in her cabin, by reason there were no more beds on shore than for my four companions, *viz.* *Thomas Randal*, of *Cork* in *Ireland* (whose bed was largest, which he did me the favour to spare a part of now and then, when the wind was high, and I did not care to lye on board), *Richard White*, of *Port Royal*, *William Musgrave*, of *Kingston* in *Jamaica*, and *Ralph Middleton*, of *Corves* in the *Isle of Wight*. These men, with eight others, set out of *Port Royal* about a month after us, bound for the same place; but those others lying ashore, and wandering too far up in the country, were met, as it is supposed, by some *Spaniards* and *Indians*, who fell upon them; yet by all appearance, they fought desperately; for when *Mr. Randal* and *Mr. Middleton* went to seek them, they found all the eight dead, with fifteen *Indians*, and two *Spaniards*; all the *Englishmen* had several cuts in their heads, arms, breasts, &c. that made it appear they had sold their lives dearly. They were too far up in the country, to bring down their dead; so they were obliged to dig a hole in the earth, and put them in as they lay in their clothes. As for the *Indians* and *Spaniards*, they stripped them, and left them above ground as they found them, and made all the haste they could to embark, for fear of any other unlucky accident that might happen. They set sail as soon as ever they came on board, and made the best of their way for *Jamaica*, till they

were overtaken by the storm that shipwrecked them on *Make-shift Island*, as I had named it.

We had now all manner of fishing-tackle with us, but we wanted a boat to go a little way from shore to catch fish; therefore we set our wits to work, in order to make some manner of engine; and at last we pitched upon this odd project. We took six casks, and tarred them all over, then stopped up the bungs with cork, and nailed them close down with a piece of tarred canvas; these six casks we tied together with some of the cords of the vessel, and upon them we placed the scuttles of the deck, where we fixed them, and made it so strong, that two men might easily set upon them; but for fear a storm should happen, we tied to one end of her a coil or two of small ropes, of five hundred fathoms long, which we fixed to a stake on the shore; then two of them went out (as for my part, I was no fisherman), in order to see what success they should have, but returned with only one nurse, a fish so called, about two feet long, something like a shark, only its skin is very rough, and, when dry, will do the same office as a seal skin. The same boiled in lemon juice, is the only remedy in the world for the scurvy, by applying some of the skin to the calves of your legs, and rubbing your body with some of the liquor once or twice. We sent out our fishermen the next day again, and they returned with two old wives and a young shark, about two feet long; which we dressed for dinner, and they proved excellent eating. In the morning following we killed a young seal, with our fowling piece; but she was first so kind as to give me a blow on the forehead, which cut the skin, and made it bleed very much; this was done with her fins, for as they run toward the water, they throw backward the gravel, as horses do when they gallop hard; this we salted, and it ate very well, after lying two or three days in the brine.

We passed our time in *Make-shift Island* as well as we could; we invented several games, to divert ourselves. One day, when we had been very merry, Mr. *Randal* observed, that as our bark was strong and firm, he did not doubt, that by degrees, with time and much labour, he would get her into the water again. "I have been aboard her this morning," said he, "when you were all asleep, and examined her carefully inside and out, and fancy our liberty may be soon effected. I only wonder we have never thought before of clearing the sand from her sides; which once done, I believe we may launch her out into deep water; we have all our tackling, sails, and masts, entire, without damage. I do not despair of working our deliverance. I myself have been more than once in the same, or worse condition.

"In a voyage I made twelve years ago, I suffered shipwreck, and not one person saved but myself. I set out from the city of *Cork* in *Ireland*, on board a bark bound for the *Baltic*. We passed the straits of *Elfsneur* and *Helsingburgh* without meeting any thing material; when one evening it happened to thunder, lighten, and rain prodigiously; the storm was so violent, that

we expected every moment we should be drove on shore on the coast of *Swedeland* or *Norway*, and be dashed to pieces. The storm continued so long, that all our masts came by the board, our vessel sprung a leak, and the water gained upon us every moment; at last it overpowered us so much, that we left pumping, as believing it impossible to save ourselves, and recommended our souls to the mercy of the Lord. At last our ship sunk downright, and most of our men with it; but I and two more had the good fortune to lay hold of the main-mast (that having been cut above deck, because it was sprung below, and thrown overboard, to prevent any danger), which was tangled in some of the cordage; but the ship sinking downright, with the rope that was turned to the main-mast, gave it such a tug, that pulled it under water; but afterward loosing that, it rose with two of us again, but the third was never seen after. The other that saved himself upon the mast, was the master, a man about sixty years old, who held pretty well for about an hour; but at last, through weakness and age (recommending his soul to God), fell off, but yet called for help; and I being willing to give him what assistance I could, laid hold of him; which I had no sooner done, but he grasped at me, and laying fast hold of the skirt of my waistcoat (having never a coat on), pulled me off the mast; but with his weight, and some struggling I made to save myself, my skirt ripped off, and the master sunk to the bottom; when I by good fortune laid hold of the rigging that hung to the mast; so once more got on stride of it, but with little hopes of life, yet doing my endeavour to save myself. At last, after being tost about for two or three hours more, the end of the mast rushed with such violence against a rock (as I supposed), that with the shock I was thrown off, but laid hold of some of the cordage again, and held fast till it fixed itself in some of the craggy clefts of the rock. By this time the tempest was very much abated; and the waves not dashing so often, nor so fierce, I found that the mast hung on the craggy clefts of the rock, which I climbed as fast as I could, lest another wave should dash me against it, and beat my brains out. After I had got as high as I could, and out of danger of the waves, I kneeled down, and returned thanks to the Almighty for my wonderful deliverance, which was wonderful indeed; for although the mast beat so often against the rock, yet I escaped without being so much as bruised. When I had poured out the fulness of my soul, I composed myself to sleep, but with a calmness wonderful (even to myself), wonderful in every circumstance, that the almighty providence should chuse me out of thirty poor souls that perished in the stormy deep, for a monument of his mercy. When it came to be light enough to perceive any object, I rose up, and began to view the place; when, to my great surprise, I found it to be only a large rock, about half a mile in circumference, as near as I could guess; but the north part was so inaccessible, there was no getting to the top of it. Looking about me, I saw fawning and coming toward

me a large bitch. I must confess I was surpris'd and pleas'd, and made much of my new companion. I hoped from it I should find some human creatures; but searching about, and not meeting with any, I was more griev'd than before. In walking up and down, in a little cavity of the rock I met with seven young sucking puppies, which I found belonged to the bitch my companion, for she gave them suck, which I stay'd a little while to observe. Then a thought came into my head, that this might be some resort for fishermen, and I should very shortly see some that would take me from this desolate place. I began to search about for something to sustain nature, but could find nothing except some perrywinkles, and other little shell-fish, which I ventured to feed upon, for I now began to be very hungry. I wonder'd mightily at my poor bitch, how she got food to support herself and her seven young ones. I observ'd she us'd to leave me two or three times a day, but return'd in a quarter of an hour. One day I had the curiosity to watch her, but she went so fast that I could not come up to her; but still I follow'd, and at last came to the point of a rock, where she went down; and looking below, saw her feeding upon a dead seal; but how it came there I could not suppose, neither could I go down the rock to see further, it being so dangerous a place. When she had ate her fill, she came up again, and went to give her young ones suck. I was mightily put to it for water, though there were good quantities in several cavities of the rocks; but so hard to come at, that some times I ventured breaking my neck to get it; besides, I could not expect that would always last, for the sun was pretty warm, although not intolerable. I had in my pocket a knife and fork, and a case of lancets; but they were rusty by being wet, and of no use to me, for I could get nothing to exercise them on; indeed my fork serv'd me to twist out my perriwinkles. I had been here now fifteen days, and nothing to feed on but these sort of shell-fish; yet still, my strength and health continued to a miracle. I slept well, though my bed was something hard; it was composed of part of the rigging that came on shore with the mast, which I had untwisted, and pulled into okum, and laid it under a hollow part of the rock, where no rain or wind could hurt me, unless it blew hard south; which when it did, would force a little into my bed-chamber. Looking out one day, I saw a boat coming toward my rocky island. The sight rais'd my spirits wonderfully; but observing her closely, I found she was only driven by the wind and tide, without any one in her. However, I got down my rock, and waited for her coming on shore, which she did within twenty yards of me. I immediately got up to rummage her, and found twenty dried fish, a salt-box filled with bisket, and about half a pint of brandy in a bottle. After giving God thanks with great sincerity of soul, I fell-to, and ate heartily. There were two oars in the boat, a boat-hook, a small fishing-net, and a tinder-box, with a grappling-iron and rope for a cable. Upon this I began to be exceeding easy, and

thought myself to be in a happy condition. I brought my fish on shore, and stowed them in my bed-chamber, and over them (for fear of my bitch) put several pieces of ropes. I had a tinder-box, and could strike a light, but had no candle to burn, or any provision to dress. After I had settled every thing as I would have it, I resolved to take my boat and go round the rock, to see if I could discover any thing on the other side of the inaccessible part. Whereupon I took two of my dried fish, and half a dozen biskets, and put myself on board; but my poor bitch came to the shore side, and took on so mightily, that I went and brought her in. I rowed half round (as near as I could guess) the first day; but what made me so long was, that in some places I was obliged to row half a league from the shore, to avoid some shallows which lay out toward the north-east. I ventured to lie in my boat all night, and the next morning went onward with my voyage, and at last came to that part of the rock that I could not get over when I was ashore. Here I found upon the ground a nest of eggs, about the bigness of a duck-egg; yet I could not discover what fowl owned them. I ventured to suck some of them, which I found as pleasant as a new laid hen-egg. Here the bitch grew very uneasy, and by her whining, and her fruitless endeavours to pass the rock (which was perpendicular) let me understand she wanted to be with her puppies. Finding nothing here for my benefit, but my eggs, I got on board, and endeavoured to go round, which I did, till I came to the place where the seal lay that my bitch found, but it stunk abominably; yet she fell-to; and after having ate, ran up the rock, and so (as I suppose) to her puppies. I went on board again; but there arose such a fog on a sudden, that I could hardly see the length of the boat, so rather chose to go back again than venture farther out of my knowledge, which I did in a little time, the sea being higher over the sand, and arrived at my own habitation. I pulled up my boat as high as I could, and went on shore; when coming to visit my young companions, I found the weakest dead for want of the dam; which I immediately flayed open, and cut off the skin; when after being dried, I made me a cap of it, by cutting it into form, and sewing it together with some fine rope yarn that I twisted on purpose; and my fork I used instead of a needle. The fat served me to make candles in this manner, by pulling to pieces fine rope yarn, and twisting it hard; then I struck a light, and with an egg-shell heated my fat, and drew the rope yarn through it, so I provided myself with a new sort of candle. But then I had only a small piece of match; and when that was gone, I should be at a strange loss how to light my candle. Finding my provision decrease, I came to an allowance of a quarter of a fish a day, and half a bisket, and not to touch that if I could get any shell fish, which began to be scarce too; for some days I could not find above ten or twelve, and when I came first there I used to take them up by handfuls. Upon this I began to reflect, that winter was ap-

proaching, and consequently very cold weather; and then perhaps I should not get any food. I therefore resolved to venture in my boat, and sail which way the wind should direct me; but then I was put to it for a sail (for we had cut off the yards and sails of the main-mast, before we threw it overboard); but at last I thought of a white dimity waistcoat that I wore, which was linen. This I unripped and sewed together again, so pieced the lining to the outsides, which made me a tolerable sail. But in the mean time the wind blew so high, that I durst not venture out; and continued so long, that my provision was diminished to two fish, which almost put me to my wits end. Shell-fish were not to be had. So at last I resolved to kill one of my bitch's whelps; which I did, made a fire with some boards I found at the bottom of my boat, and roasted it; it was palatable, and ate wonderfully well, they not being above two months old. I don't question but you'll laugh at me, when I tell you it went very much against me to kill this harmless creature; but my necessity had no law; besides, I had observed but two days before, that the seal, which was the dam's food, was gnawed to the bones. In short, after some strugglings with myself, I killed five of the six, and salted two of them; for after eating my biskets out of the salt-box, I found a handful or two of salt at the bottom, which I made use of in that manner. The entrails I boiled, and gave to the dam and the other puppy, who ate of it heartily, making no scruple though their own flesh and blood. The sixth and last puppy I resolved not to kill at all if I could help it, it being so like the dam, and would always be with me if it could, when the others would only play about the hole where they lay. In short, I began to find the weather cold, and so resolved to set sail in my boat, with my two companions, my bitch and puppy; and on the 1st of *September*, after being on the rock from *May* the 30th, I set sail with the wind about N. E. a middling gale, and steering with my other oar; for you must know my boat-hook was my mast, and a piece of slit wood that I saved from the fire was my yard; so that I could make shift to ply it to windward upon occasion, but was resolved to sail before the wind till I discovered land; for my boat being pretty large, and my sail but small, I could not make my way as I might have done with a sail fitted to the boat; so that I could not discover land that night, but sailed on till about midnight; then I was so fatigued, that in spite of myself, I was obliged to lie along in the boat, and fell asleep; in which state I continued till I was awakened by a fisherman in a boat, whom I understood not, but found by his dialect to be a *Dane*. I gave him to understand my condition, by speaking and signs together; which he seemed to be sorry for, by beating his breast, and shaking his head. He carried me ashore to a village, where they made very much of me, and gave me clothes; but I would not stir without my dogs. My boat was sold, and the money given me for my own use. After I had staid at the village three days, I was carried to

Copenhagen, to Mr. *Bridgewater*, the factor for several *English* merchants, who made a gathering for me, which amounted to twenty-seven pounds in *English* money. The king of *Denmark* sent a person to me, who understood *English* very well, to take down the particulars of my voyage in the *Danish* language, which I saw afterward printed there; but no one could ever fix upon the rock that I lived on. Some conjectured it to be a part of the main land of *Sweden*, which I should have found if I had ventured when hindered by the fog. But I forgot to tell you, that through printing this account, a man came to demand his boat, which he said he had lost by the carelessness of a boy, to whom he had given it in charge; who neglecting to fasten it on shore, it drove out to sea, and came where I had the good fortune to meet with it, or rather guided by the eye of providence, to be the means or instrument of saving my life; for without that I must inevitably have perished. The fisherman who owned the boat had a new one given him in the room of it, and to the value of five pounds for the things it contained. The gentleman who was ordered to take the notes mentioned above, brought me a hundred *English* guineas, collected from merchants and gentlemen of the city. The king likewise ordered me a hundred more from his privy purse; so that on *November* the 18th, I entered on board an *English* ship, called the *Happy*, captain *John Gibson* commander. We immediately set sail for *London*, and arrived at *Deptford*; and from thence embarked for *Cork*, where I had some small effects; and happily arrived there *January* the 14th, 1691, where I was welcomed from death by all my friends and acquaintances. 1691

“After staying the winter at *Cork*, I designed to embark with captain *Clark*, on board the *Gilliflower*; and accordingly we set out from *Cork*, *April* the 23d, 1691 for *Boston* in *New England*, and so for *Virginia*. We arrived at *Boston*, *June* the 3d, having a quick passage. After having done our business there, we set sail for *Virginia*. We doubled *Cape Cod* without danger; but one night a storm rose that flung us on shore upon the main, within six leagues of *Cape Charles*, where our men were all saved, but in a poor condition. Our ship lying upon the sands a furlong from shore, fourteen out of twenty of our men that could swim, went into the long-boat, and then on board the ship to get some necessaries. As soon as they had got what they wanted, they came toward the shore again; but the boat being deeply laden, could not come nigh enough to shore to unload; so they resolved to go farther to seek for deeper water, and bade us follow along the shore, which we did; but they doubling a point of land, we lost sight of them. However, we followed on still; when going over a little swamp, we perceived several *Indians* in a wood on our right hand. Whereupon we began to be in a desperate fright, but still marched on; when coming to the skirt of the wood, they let fly their arrows at us, which killed one of our companions, and wounded two more, one in the arm, and the other in the side of his neck; as

for my part, I still remained unhurt, but had an arrow sticking in the sleeve of my waistcoat. After the *Indians* had fired, they ran to us with incredible swiftness; whereupon, having no weapons, we kneeled down to them, and implored their mercy. One among them spoke *English* pretty well, who said, "you *English* white men, we will kill you, to be revenged of your brothers at *Lamestown*, who kill us many *Indians*. We will take you to our *werowance* (i. e. king), where we will drink your blood, and feed upon your flesh." They hurried us along that night twenty miles up the country, and next morning brought us to their village, where was their king sick in his cabin; but hearing of our coming, he rose up, and with several of his officers (who are called *cockorooses*) came toward us. After he had examined the *Indians* (as we suppose) how we were taken, he ordered a great fire to be made, and had us all tied to one stake fixed in the earth; but we were no sooner tied, and the signal given for firing the wood about us, but we were untied and brought back to the tent, to stay, as we were informed, till next day, that more *Indians* might come to be spectators of our tragedy. They had stripped us naked, and in my breeches-pocket had found my box of instruments, which they examined very narrowly, and asked which of us it belonged to? When they were informed it was mine, I was immediately sent for before the king; who asked me, by his interpreter, the name and use of every instrument; which I informed him of. When he came to my lancets, and was told they were to bleed, he asked, in a great passion, if I was the murderer of the *Indians* that were taken by the *English*? But when I acquainted him it was to let blood in many distempers, to give ease to the body, and that we were strangers to those *English* who killed their *Indians*, he abated of his anger, and asked me if I could show how I let blood? which I told him I could, if any one who was not well wanted it; whereupon the king said he was not very well; but he would have me try upon one of my companions, before he would let me bleed him. I bade his interpreter tell him I would feel his pulse, that I might know whether it was proper to let him blood or not. "Feel his pulse! What's that?" said the interpreter, who thought I meant something else; whereupon I took him by the hand, and showed him what I meant. When the interpreter had satisfied him with what I said, he beckoned me to him, and held out his hand, which I felt, and found he was in a high fever. I told the interpreter that he must be let blood, for his indisposition was a fever, and I explained his distemper; which he finding to agree with his condition, seemed to be mightily pleased; but he would have me bleed some one of my companions before him. I fixed upon one that it would not injure, and bled him upon the ground till he had lost enough, and then tied up his arm. The king, and the rest of the *Indians*, were amazed to see him bleed such a quantity, and asked me if he himself must bleed as much? I told them, yes, or rather more;

but that I would have something to save the blood, because I could make a better judgment of the cause of his distemper. Accordingly, they brought me a callibash, which I imagined might hold a quart. I then tied up his arm, and let him bleed till I had taken from him about sixteen ounces, and bound up his arm again. When I had done, he wanted to go into his hammock to sleep; but I told him he must not go to rest till night, which he complied with. The next day he was much better, and sent for me again from the place where they had kept us waking all night, by singing and dancing round us; for if any of us offered to sleep, they would jog and hinder us. When I came to him I unbound his arm, and he looked at the orifice; finding it closed, he was more amazed than before. He then made his interpreter ask me concerning his blood, which was corrupted; and when I told him if I had not bled him he would soon have died, he got up, and made me sit down upon a mat which lay in his cabin. He then told me, by his interpreter, if I would stay with him he would save both me and my companions, if we would fight against the Whites, and marry *Indian* women, that should be allotted us. I told him I would ask my companions, who rejoiced at the proposal; and though all married before, yet they made no scruple of having another wife. As for myself, though not married, I did not much care for such a tawny rib; therefore told the king, none of our profession ever married. Being well satisfied with this answer, he spared all our lives. For my part I had a house allotted me to myself, that is a place about the height of one story with us, and covered with the barks of trees; the fireplace is in the middle of the house, and all the chimney is the door. The country is generally pretty even, and agrees very well with an *English* constitution. I need not describe, for I suppose you all know the nature of it as well as myself. All the *Indians* that ever I saw, were well limbed, near six feet high. The marriages were made the next day without much ceremony; they were only joined by their priests, without any question on either side, and so carried home to their several tents. All the while I was here, they were making preparations to go against the *English*. One day I was sent for, and ordered to feel the pulse of the king; after I had done, he asked me if I could tell any thing of the affairs of the *English* by feeling the pulse; but I told him, that was impossible, without I was with them in person. Whereupon the king asked me if I would go to the *English*, and come to him again, and give him a true account of them; but you must leave your *sagamore* (said he, meaning my box of instruments) behind you. I told him I would make it my business to inform myself in every particular, but that I did not know the way; he told me I should have a canoe and four *Indians* that should carry me within a league of the *English*. I must confess I went with joy and sorrow; with joy to leave such a cursed place, where death threatened me every day; with sorrow, to go without my companions. We

went into our canoe, which lay about six miles from the place where the king lived, but took no provisions with us, because my *Indians* were to provide for me by catching of fish, in which they are very dexterous. We went down the river that the *Indians* called *Kuskarra* river, till we come to *Chesapeack-bay*; then we rowed in our canoe past *Russel's* Islands, and made toward *Cape*, or *Point-Comfort*; but coming about a league or thereabout near the island, a boat came down the river, and upon what account I cannot tell, but they fired a musquet, which being heard by the *Indians*, they immediately jumped over-board, and swam back again to shore. I was not much concerned I must own, for there was no danger of their being drowned, as most *Indians* swim like fishes. I took the paddles and made the best of my way to *Point-Comfort*, which I passed, and entered *Pawhattan* river (being directed by my *Indians* so to do), and directed my way to *Lamestown*, where I arrived very late, and was mightily rejoiced to find my companions all well in health, and ready to embark the next day for *Boston*, in a vessel bound for that place. After refreshing myself, and selling my canoe, I with the rest of the company set sail the next day, and after various adventures am arrived where you see me."

After we had spent the night in reflection of what had passed, the next morning we went to work to clear the sand from our vessel, which we continued working on for sixteen days together, resting only on *Sundays*; by which means we effected it at last. We had thrown up the sand on each side, down from the vessel quite to the surface of the water, when it was lowest. Now the next thing we had to do, was to get poles to put under our bark to launch her out; which we got from the *Burton* wood, but with much difficulty, for we were forced to cut a great many before we could get any that were fit for our purpose. After we had done this, we resolved, on the day following to thrust off our vessel into the water, but were prevented by Mr. *Randal's* being taken ill of a fever, occasioned (as we supposed) by his great fatigue in working to free our ship from the sand, wherein he spared no pains to encourage us as much by his actions as his words, even beyond his strength. The concern we were all in upon this account, occasioned our delay in not getting our vessel out; besides, one hand out of five was weakening our strength. Mr. *Randal* never thought of his instruments till now, which he wanted to let himself blood with; but not feeling them about his clothes, we supposed they might have been overlooked in the vessel; so I ran immediately to see if I could find any of them. When we entered into the vessel, and all our endeavours to find the box of instruments proved fruitless, we were all mightily concerned, for we verily believed that bleeding would have cured him; nay, even he thought that if he could be let blood, his fever would abate, and he should be easier; yet to see with what a perfect resignation he submitted to the will of heaven, would have inspired any one with a true knowledge of the state good men enjoy after a

dissolution from this painful life. He was still worse and worse; but yet so patient in his sufferings, that perfectly amazed us all. He continued in this manner a whole week, without tasting any thing but water-gruel ill made, for what oatmeal we had was sour. When we saw, by the course of nature, it was impossible he should last long, we were all very much grieved; as for my own part, I could not forbear shedding tears, for I had taken such an affection to him, that almost equalled a child's love to a parent. He seeing me weep, called me with a faint voice; and when I was near him, made me sit down by him; and having uttered a short prayer, lifted up his hands and eyes to heaven, and then expired, with the happiness of continuing in his right senses in such a fever, which is generally attended with a frenzy.

After our sorrow for his death was something abated, we consulted how to bury him. Mr. *Middleton* and Mr. *Musgrave* were for sewing him in his hammock, and throwing him into the sea; but Mr. *White* and myself were for burying him on the land, which they agreed to; so we digged the hole which I designed for my well, seven feet long, and seven deep, and returned him to earth, from whence he came.

Mr. *Randal* made no will; yet I claimed his dog, being the whelp of the bitch he found upon the rock which he was thrown upon in the *Baltic*, the bitch being dead some years before. We were forced to tie him up after we had buried Mr. *Randal*, for with his feet he would scrape holes in the grave two feet deep, and howl prodigiously.

After this we prepared once more to launch our vessel; but first we put on board what provision we had left, and all the things that we took from thence. Mr. *Randal's* death gave me (with the others permission) a title to a bed, which I wanted before. So that I took up the cabin which was allotted me, and laid on board every night. And now we bent our thoughts entirely on the vessel, and on *Monday* the 31st of *December* launched her out into the sea, and designed to set sail the next day. After we had fixed her fast with two anchors and a halser on shore, we went on board to dine and make ourselves merry, which we did very heartily; and to add to our mirth, we made a large can of punch, which we never attempted to do before, being we had but one bottle of lime-juice in all, and which indeed we designed for this occasion; in short, the punch ran down so merrily, that we were all in a drunken condition; but when it was all gone, we resolved to go to rest: but all I could do, could not persuade them to lie on board that night in their cabins (yet without a bed); but they would venture, though they were obliged to swim a hundred yards before they could wade to shore; but however they got safe, which I knew by their hallooing and rejoicing. My bed being on board, I went to rest very contentedly, till next morning; but oh! horror! when I had dressed myself, and went on deck, to call my companions to come on board, I could not see any land, which so overcame me on the sudden, that I sunk down on the deck, without sense

or motion : how long I continued so, I can't tell, but I awaked full of the sense of my lamentable condition, and ten thousand times cursed my unhappy stars, that had brought me to that deplorable state. After I had vented my grief in a torrent of words and tears, I began to think how the vessel should have gone to sea without my knowledge; and by remembrance of the matter the night before, found by our eager and fatal carelessness, we had forgot to fasten our cables to the geers; and pulling up the halser that we had fastened to one of the *Burton* trees on shore, perceived that the force of the vessel had pulled the tree out of the earth. Then I too late found that a hurricane had rose when I was found asleep, and stupified by too much liquor, and carried off the vessel. This reflection wounded me deeper than before, and I began to call upon him that hears us in the time of trouble; when I began to be something better contented in my mind, and thought of sustaining nature, almost spent with fatigue and grieving. One great comfort I had on my side, which my poor former wretched companions wanted; that was, provision in plenty, and fresh water; so that when I began to consider coolly, I found I had not that cause to complain which they had, who were left on a barren island, without any other provision than that very same diet which I was forced to take up with when first thrown ashore; namely, the boobies, whose numbers were mightily diminished before we left the island. What made me most uneasy, was the thought of what my companions could judge of me, whether they should take it for design or chance; but then I stilled those thoughts, by knowing they must see that the tree was forced away with violence beyond the strength of man. Besides, I had another small comfort in the company of my dog, that lay on board with me, which I used to talk to as if he were a rational creature; when the poor beast would stand and stare me in the face, as if he were sensible of what I said to him. It was a very handsome creature of the *Danish* kind, very good-natured, and would often go to the cabin where I lay, which was that of his old master, and whine mightily.

I remained tossed upon the sea for a fortnight without discovering land; for the weather continued calm, but yet so hazy that I could not perceive the sun for several days. One day searching for some linen that I had dropped under the facking of my bed (for I did not lie in a hammock), I found an old glove with seventy-five pieces of eight in it, which I took and sewed in the waistband of my breeches, in case I should want it some time or other. I made no scruple of taking it, for I was well assured it did belong to poor *Mr. Randal*. Besides, I had heard the other people say, that they were sure he had money somewhere; and after his death we searched for it, but could not find any.

January the 20th I discovered a sail to leeward of me, but she bore away so fast, that there was not any hope of succour from her, and I had not any thing to distinguish me; and I supposed

though I could see them, yet they could not see me by reason of my want of sail, which would have made me the more conspicuous. The next day I discovered land, about six leagues to the s.w. of me, which I observed my vessel did not come nigh, but coasted along shore; but I was well assured it was the province of *Yucatan* belonging to the *Spaniards*, and was the place we came from. Now all my fear was that I should fall into their hands, who would make me do the work of a slave; but even that I thought was better than to live in continual fear of storms and tempests, or shipwreck. I coasted along in this manner for two or three days, and at last discovered land right a-head, which I was very glad of; but yet mixed with some fear, in not knowing what treatment I should have.

January the 30th, I made the bay and town of *Francisco di Campechy*, as it proved afterward, and was almost upon it before I was met by any thing of a ship, or a boat; but at last two canoes came on board with one *Spaniard* and six *Indians*, who were very much surprized when they learned my condition by speaking broken *French*, which the *Spaniard* understood. They immediately carried me on shore, and from thence to the governor, who was at dinner; they would have had me staid till he had dined; but he hearing of me, commanded me to come in, where he was with several respectable gentlemen, and two ladies; and though 'tis very rare any one sees the women, yet they did not offer to veil themselves. I was ordered to sit down by myself at a little table placed for that purpose, where I had sent me of what composed their dinner, which was some fish and fowls, and excellent wine of several sorts. After they had feasted me for two or three days, they sent me about with several officers appointed by the governor, to make a gathering, which we did with success; for in three days we had got seven hundred and odd pieces of eight: and two merchants there were at the charge of fitting up my bark, in order to send it for my poor companions. When it was finished, they gave me several necessities for myself and companions, to hearten us up; as some bottles of fine wines; two bottles of citron-water, for a cordial; chocolate, and several other useful things: but the difficulty was to get seamen to go with me. At last they remembered they had five *Englishmen* that were prisoners there, and taken in the bay of *Campechy*, upon suspicion of piracy, but nothing could be proved against them; whom they freed without any ransom.

On *February* the 15th, 1700, we set sail from *Campechy* bay, after paying my acknowledgment to the generous governor, &c. We plyed it to windward very briskly, and in fifteen days discovered the *Isles* of the *Alcranes*; but we durst not go within the shoals, because we were all ignorant of the channel. So we cast anchor, and hoisted out our boat, with two men and myself, and made to shore, where we found my three companions, but in a miserable condition, and Mr. *Musgrave* so faint and weak, that they expected he could not live long. When they awaked the next day, after I was drove off in the dark, they were all in

despair, to find the vessel gone, which they perceived was occasioned by a hurricane, that they were assured was violent, because it had blown down their tent, though without awaking them. But when they began to consider they had no food, nor but very little fresh water, which was left in a barrel without a head in the tent, their despair increased; but, as no passion can last long that is violent, it wore off with their care for sustenance, which they diligently searched for; but not finding any quantity of eggs, or boobies, the dreadful fear of starving came into their minds, with all its horrid attendants. They had now been five days without eating or drinking, not for want of appetite, but food, which they endeavoured to get, but all to no purpose: for the boobies were retired, either out of fear, or custom, to some other place. Neither could they find one egg more, and weakness came so fast upon them, with hunger and drought, that they were hardly able to crawl, so they thought of nothing but dying, till we came to relieve them from that deplorable condition. Mr. *Musgrave* we brought to a little life and strength, by giving him some citron water in small quantities. We were now got on board again, in order to sail as soon as the wind would rise, it being calm, and continued so for two days; but at last it blew a little; when we weighed anchor, and stood out to sea. I now was master of a ship. We were in all nine men, all *English*; that is, myself first; *Rich. White*, *W. Musgrave*, and *Ralph Middleton*, my old companions; *John Stone*, *W. Keater*, *Francis Hood*, *W. Warren*, and *Joseph Meadows* the five men that had been given me by *Don Antonio*; who, as I said before, were taken up on suspicion of piracy; whereupon a thought came into my head, that had escaped me before. I considered if these were really pirates, five to four, they might be too powerful for us, and perhaps murder us. *Frank Hood* we had made our cook, to dress our provision, which he understood a little. One day, as I said before, being at dinner (for we all ate together), I asked the five men what was the reason they were taken by the *Spaniards* for pirates? Upon which they seemed nonplussed; but *Warren* soon recovered himself, as well as the rest, and spake in the name of them all, after this manner:—"We embarked on board the ship *Bonaventure*, in the *Thames*, bound for *Jamaica*, where we made a prosperous voyage; but after taking in our lading, in our way home, we were overtaken by a storm, in which our ship was lost, and all the men perished but myself and four companions, who were saved in the long-boat. But the reason we were taken for pirates was, that making to shore to save ourselves, we saw a bark riding at anchor without the port of *Campochy*; which we made to, in order to inquire whereabouts we were, and to beg some provisions, our own being gone; and entering the vessel, found but two persons in it; the third jumping into the water, swam on shore, and brought three boats filled with *Spanish* soldiers, which entered the vessel before we could make off."—"Make off!" says I, "what, did you de-

sign to run away with the vessel?"—"No," answered *Warren*, with some confusion, "but we did design to weigh anchor, and go farther on shore, that we might land in the morning, it being then late at night; but we were prevented by their coming on board us, where we were found armed, which we had taken care of when we were in our boat to defend ourselves, if we were obliged to land among the savages." Indeed they had their arms restored them, when they were freed and sent on board with me.

I must confess, I did not like the fellow being nonplussed now and then, in not knowing what to say; but upon consideration, thought it might be for want of words to express himself; which is the occasion very often of people stammering, and humming and hawing, in order to put their words in better order; so for that time I took no more notice, not weighing it in my mind. But in the evening *Mr. Middleton* came to me, with a face of concern, and told me he did not like these fellows tales. "Why so?" said I. "Because I observe they herd together," answered he, "and are always whispering and speaking low to one another."—"Oh!" said I, "there cannot be any danger in them; for if they had any inclination to run away with our vessel, they might have done it when they were five to one, before we took you in."—"I know not," replied *Middleton*. "I have a heart forebodes something."—"Pshaw! old women's fears!" said I; "for they would have done it when they had more power, before I landed on *Despair Island* (as I called it), if they had any such intentions."

However, I began to stagger in my opinion of their honesty, and therefore we resolved to stand upon our guard. We took no notice of our conference then to our two other companions, but resolved to stay till night, we having a better opportunity, as we lay together in the cabin aft. When we were to go to supper, we called one another to come; but five of the sailors excused themselves, by saying they had dined so lately that they had no appetites as yet; whereupon we had an opportunity sooner to converse together than we designed; for being at supper, we opened the matter to our two other companions, who agreed immediately that we were in some danger; so we resolved to seize them in their sleep, in the middle watch of the night. We were to have the first watch, which we set at eight; then they were to have the second till twelve; and in the next watch, between one and two, we had resolved to seize upon them as they slept; that is four of them, for one watched with us, which was *Frank Hood*, the cook; whom we agreed to seize and bind fast toward the latter end of the watch, and to threaten him with death if he offered to make the least noise.

As soon as ever our first watch was set, we sent *Mr. Musgrave* to prepare our arms. In about half an hour *Warren* called to *Hood* upon deck (for they slept below); for he was very dry, he said; whereupon the other went down immediately with some water in a can to him. As soon as he was gone down, I had the

curiosity to draw as near the scuttle as I could to hear the discourse. Now you must know that *Hood*, our cook, had been employed that day about searching our provisions, our beef-cakes, and pork, to see what quantity we had, that we might know how long it would last; so that the others had not an opportunity to disclose their design to him. As soon as he was got down, I could hear *Will. Warren* say to him, "G-d d--n you, *Frank*, we had like to have been smoked to-day; and though we had contrived the story that I told them, yet I was a little surpris'd at their asking me, because then I did not expect it; but we design to be even with them in a very little time; for hark ye," said he, and spoke so low that I could not hear him; upon which the other said, "there's no difficulty in the matter; but we need not be in such haste; for you know, as we ply it to windward, a day or two can break no squares; and we can soon, after the effecting our design, bear down to leeward to our comrades that we left on shore; for I fancy they have some small suspicion of you now, which in time may sleep, and therefore 'tis better to wait a day or two."—"No, G-d z-ds, we'll do it to-morrow night, when they are asleep," replied *Warren*;" whereupon there were many arguments *pro* and *con*, as I fancied; but they spoke so low, that I could only hear a "G-d d--n ye," now and then, and something of that kind. A little while after, *Hood* came up again; and after walking up and down, and fixing his eyes often upon me, who in the mean time was provided with a couple of pistols under my watch-coat, and indeed were their own, that we hung up ready charged in our cabin; which was one reason of their design to attack us in our sleep, as they had no arms till they could seize on them where they hung; otherwise they were such desperate fellows, they would have done it in the open day. *Hood*, as I said before, seemed to fix his eyes frequently upon me, for till now I never watched in the night. At last, said he very softly, "if you please, Mr. *Falconer*, I have a word or two to say to you, that much concerns you all."—"What is it?" said I. "Why," answered he, "I would have the rest of your companions ear-witnesses too." With that I called them together. "But," said he, "let us retire as far from the scuttle as we can, that we may not be heard by any below deck." So we went into the cabin, and opened the scuttle above, that Mr. *Musgrave*, who steered, might know what we said. When we were sat down upon the floor, Mr. *Hood* began as follows:—"My four companions below have a wicked design upon you; that is, to seize you, and put you into the boat, and run away with your vessel. But I thinking it an inhuman action, not only to any one, but to you in particular, who have been the means of their freedom; therefore, I hope appointed by providence, I come to let you know it, that we may think of some means to prevent it." Upon this, finding him sincere, I told him that we were prepared against it already; and with the consent of my companions, told him our

design of seizing them in the third watch. "But," said he, "they intend to put their project in practice the next watch; therefore, I think it will be more proper for us to counter-plot them, and seize them this;"—"but as they have no arms," said I, "and we have, we need not fear them."

We had several debates about this, which took up too much time to our sorrow; for *Warren* mistrusting *Hood*, it seems he got up and listened; and when he found that we retired all of us to the cabin, he got upon deck; and stealing softly, came so close, that he overheard every thing we said; which as soon as he understood, he went immediately to his companions, who waited impatiently (as they told us afterward), and let them know all our discourse; whereupon, without pausing, they resolved to attack us immediately, in the midst of our consultation; which was no sooner resolved upon, than done; for we were immediately surprised with their seizing us; which they did with that quickness, and so unperceivably, that we were all confounded and amazed. They had whiped off two pistols in our consternation, which they clapped to our breasts. In this confusion, I had forgot mine that were at my girdle, or else we might have been hard enough for them; neither did I remember them till they found them about me. They had shut the cabin-door on the inside, till they had bound us, and never minded Mr. *Musgrave* knocking and making a noise, till they had secured us; which done, they opened the door, and seized him, who came to know what the matter was; for we had no candle in the cabin; and hearing a noise among us, thought we were seizing *Hood* (as he told us afterward), and called us to forbear, and make haste, for he was going to tack about; but we did not hear him; on which he clapped the helm a-lee, and came down to fetch us out, to haul off the sheets, &c.; when he was seized, and bound with us; for they left us immediately, as the sails fluttered in the wind, by reason she was veering round when the helm was a-lee.

After they had fixed the vessel, and it was broad day, they came and unbound our legs, and gave us leave to walk upon deck; whereupon I began to expostulate with them, particularly Mr. *Warren*, he seeming to have a sort of command over the others. "Pray," said I to him, "for what reason have you seized upon us, and bound us in this manner? Have we done you any injury?"—"Why," said he, "self-preservation. I found you were going to do the like by us; therefore you are but served in your kind."—"And what do you design to do with us, now you have your desire?"—"Do with you! Why, by-and-by we design to put you in the boat, and turn you adrift; but for that son of a b--h, *Hood*, we'll murder him without mercy; a dog, to betray us!"—"How, betray you!" replied I. "Yes; for I overheard all (and then related the manner of it, as mentioned above). But as you have not so much injured us, we'll put you immediately in the boat with a week's provision, and a small sail; and you shall seek your for-

tune, as I suppose you would have done by us.”—“No,” answered I, “we only designed to confine you till we came to *Jamaica*, and there to have given you your liberty to go where you had thought fit.”—“Aye, aye,” said *Warren*, “that is easily said, but we are not bound to believe you.”—“Why, ’tis plain,” said I, “that our consulting to seize you, was but to prevent what has happened.”—“We are not to inquire into the matter,” answered *Warren*; “and now we have you in our power, “we’ll do as we think fit.”—“Why then,” said I, “put us ashore at any land that belongs to the *English*, and we shall think you have not done us any injury.”—“No,” said he, “we must go meet our captain and fifty men upon the main land of *Yucatan*, where our vessel was stranded, not to be got off. Our first design when we were taken in our boat was to get us a vessel to go a buccaneering; which we had done at *Campechy*, if it had not been for the *Indian* that swam on shore unknown to us, and brought succours too soon; which we could not avoid, the sea-breeze blowing very strong all night; so we seeing our danger, were forced to form the lie we told the governor; which had some appearance of truth, for we did not use any violence to the two old *Spaniards*, because by good words we thought to make them assist in working our bark back again to our men. Now, if you will all resolve to go a buccaneering with us, we’ll venture to carry you to our captain and men; if not, we’ll do as we have proposed.” We looking one upon another, as if we were to know each other’s resolutions; he cried, “nay, if you pause, you sha’n’t have that grace, if you desire it. Therefore (said he, addressing himself to one of his companions), prepare every thing, that they may be going; they won’t be long before they come to their journey’s end.” When they had got every thing ready, that is to say, a barrel of biscuit, another of water; about half a dozen pieces of beef, and as much pork; a small kettle, and a tinder-box; we were better provided than we expected, by much. Besides, they granted us four cutlasses, a fowling-piece, with about four pounds of powder, and a sufficient quantity of shot; together with all poor *Mr. Randal’s* journals, after their perusing them, and finding them of no use to them. When this was done, he ordered the men to tie *Hood* to the mast of the vessel, and was charging a pistol to shoot him through the head, not considering it was charged before (for it was one of them which I had at my girdle, and which they took from me; but in his heat and eagerness of passion, did not mind it). We all entreated for the poor fellow, and he himself fell upon his knees, begging with all the eloquence he had to spare him, and let him go with us; but *Warren* swore bitterly, that nothing should save him. Said I, “*Mr. Warren*, if you believe there is a power that rules this globe, and sees every action of mankind, think what a crime you commit by wounding of him, in murdering his image. But if you are an atheist, and believe in no power supernatural, yet consider what a conquest you

will gain over yourself by overcoming this headstrong passion. It may be your own case another time; and murder you know is punished with death."—"What the devil have we got here, a preaching puppy? Why, dost thou think that I mind thy ridiculous cant? Prythee, mind thy own business, and get thee gone, or perhaps I may begin with you, and send you to the devil before your time." With that he cocked his pistol, and levelled it at *Hood*; but firing, it split into several pieces; when one of them struck *Warren* into the skull so deep, that he was breathing his last upon deck; one of the bullets grazed on the side of my temple; as for *Hood*, he was not hurt; but with the fright and noise of the pistol (as we supposed) laboured with such an agony of spirit, that he broke the cords which tied him by the arms, though as thick as a middle finger, and fell down, but rose immediately; when not finding himself hurt, he ran to us, and unbound our arms, unperceived by the other two, who were busy about the unfortunate *Warren*; and though they were called to by him that steered (who ran immediately to prevent it), yet they did not mind it, they were so concerned about *Warren*. And before he that steered came, *Hood* had unbound me, and stopped the fellow (*Meadows*), by giving him a blow with his fist that knocked him down. In the mean time I had unbound *White*, *Musgrave*, and *Middleton*; and we went and seized upon the other two pirates, for now we called them nothing else. After we had bound them in our turn, we went to see what assistance could be given to *Warren*, when we found that a piece of the barrel of the pistol had sunk into his skull; but yet he sat upon his breech with great resolution; and having crossed himself, soon after expired.

When we had secured our ruffians, we threw Mr. *Warren* over-board, and bore to the wind; for after our first tacking about in the morning when the first bustle happened, they bore away with tack at cat-head, as being for their purpose. The three men that were left desired us to let them have the boat, and go and seek their companions; which we refused, as not having hands enough to carry our vessel to *Jamaica*. But we promised them, if they would freely work in the voyage, they should have their entire liberty to go where they thought fit without any complaint against them. Upon this we began to be a little sociable as before, they all declaring that what they did was by the instigation of *Warren*.

The next day we discovered a ship to windward of us, that bore down upon us with crowded sails. We filled all the sails we had, and endeavoured to get away from her as fast as we could, but all to no purpose. We saw they gained upon us every moment; and therefore finding it was impossible to escape, we backed our sails, and laid-by for them, that they might be more civil, if they were enemies. As soon as ever they came up with us, they hailed us, and ordered us to come on board, which we durst not deny; when Mr. *Musgrave* and I, with *Hood* and *White* as rowers, went on board them. We

found by *Hood's* knowing them, that they were his captain and comrades. Now, as *Hood* said, we did not know how we should behave ourselves, or what we should say about *Warren*; so we only told the captain how we met with his men, and that they were redeemed upon my account. He never asked particularly about *Warren*, only how they all did; but when they sent on board to search our vessel, they soon came to the truth of it; for the other three told them the story, though not with the aggravating circumstances. Upon which poor *Hood* was tied to the main-mast, lashed with a cat-o'-nine-tails most unmercifully, and after that pickled in brine, which was more painful than the whipping; but it kept his back from festering, which it might otherwise have done, because they flay the skin off at every stroke; and to prevent it festering, they wash it with brine; which is called whipping and pickling. After this, they would not keep him among them; but sent for the other three men from our vessel, and ordered us all on board, with another of their men that was ill of a dangerous fever, which they feared might prove infectious.

Our sick man mended apace, for we took great care of him; and by keeping him low, only with water-gruel, his fever left him; when I began to keep up his spirit with my cordials that I had by me, and in a week's time he was pretty hoddy, (as we call it at sea.) Now we began to converse with him, and he seemed to be a sensible good-natured fellow. Among other discourse, we asked him how captain *M——* and his crew got a ship? Said he, "I can only tell the story as I have heard it (for I was sick on shore); which is as follows:—

"Sixteen of our men got a paragua from the *Indians*, who hate the *Spaniards*, being under their subjection, and love the *French* and *English* very well; these set out to seize upon the first vessel that they thought they could compass; when after being five days cruising along shore, they spied a large ship weathering *Cape Catoch*; but believing it to be too strong for them, they resolved to work by stratagem, thus: twelve men laid down in the boat, as if very faint and weak, and made a signal to the ship, as if in distress, who very charitably brought-to; now they had no arms with them; for when they resolved to use this stratagem, they left them ashore, as making the pretence more feasible; so that when they arrived at the ship, they all went feebly up, as if not able to stand; nay, some were obliged to be led, to colour the matter the better. They then told them that their ship was cast away upon *Loggerhead's* key, about three leagues from *Cape Catoch*; and saving themselves in their boats, they got safe into the cape; but that wandering up in the country, they were met by the *Indians*, who used them barbarously, killed eleven of their number; and would have served the rest so, if they had not made their escape in that paragua; that they were so harrassed for want of food, having been without eating two days, that they feared some of their companions would never recover. The poor *Spaniards* swallowed the bait; and their captain, being a very good

man, resolved to relieve them; and asked him what they would have him to do for them? They begged him to land them on the first *English* colony or island in their way. He answered, he was bound for *St. Domingo* in *Hispaniola*; but that he would put in at *Jamaica*, though something out of his way; 'yet,' said he, 'I don't care for going to any of the noted ports, because there is a war talked of between *England* and *Spain*; and though it is not proclaimed, we might meet with some trouble.' They were mightily obliged to him, they said, but they did not know how to return the obligation, but by praying for him and his. They sailed with them for three or four days, till at last fortune gave them an opportunity to put their enterprize in execution. They had notice that the ship leaked, and that the water came into the bread-room; upon which, the *Spaniards* went down to remove the bread to get at the leak, and did not leave more than five men above, whom they instantly seized, and clapped down the hatches upon the rest. When they had secured them, they armed themselves with pistols and lances, which were placed in the steerage of the ship, and so capitulated with them; but first, they steered their course back again; that they might not lose any time. As they came up, one by one, they bound them, till they were all so, but the captain and the pilot: the captain they confined to his cabin, with a centry to guard him; but they let the pilot go loose, that he might steer the ship. 'O inhuman!' cried I; 'thus the snake in the friendly bosom warmed, turns and stings his kind protector: thus was their generous host (if I may call him so) betrayed by his too much good-nature.' After they had brought the ship safe to us, we embarked, and put the *Spaniards* ashore without a morsel to help themselves; nay, if the *Indians* could conveniently meet with them, they would not leave one alive. I confess," pursued the man, "that this story shocked my very nature, and made me hate their society; and I really believe the abhorrence of this action brought my distemper on me. After having taken all their men on board (and leaving directions on the bark of a tree, for the five men that were gone upon the same design another way), we set sail, and had not been out two days before we met with you. 'Pray,' said I, 'how came you among them, if you liked not their design?'—"Why, sir," answered he, "by accident; embarking from *Bermudas*, bound for *St. Catherines*, or the *Isle of Providence*, we were met with by this pirate, in a ship of twenty guns, and a hundred and twenty men, who took and rummaged us, threatening to turn us adrift without provision, if we would not embrace his designs, which was piracy. We, rather than undergo what he threatened us withal, consented with our tongues; but our inclinations were far from it. And from our first being with him, we were plotting to make our escape the first opportunity. But the other four (being but five in all our vessel) were unfortunately killed in that engagement, where they lost their ship. 'What ship was it they fought with?'—"Why, sir, a man of war of twenty-six guns, sent out on purpose to take her; for the captain had com-

mitted such disorders wherever he came, that he obliged the governor of *Jamaica* to send out the ship called the *Experiment*, to cruise till she met with him: which she did about five weeks ago. Our captain, as soon as he saw her, guessed at her design, and resolved to fight her to the last; well knowing if he could take or sink her, he might be pretty secure to range where he pleased, there being never another ship of war nearer than *Barbadoes*; who never came so far west. After he had made a speech to his men to encourage them to fight it out, and told them their advantage, they consented to hoist the bloody flag, and neither to give or take quarter. As soon as ever the man of war saw our bloody flag out, they hoisted theirs, and then ensued a dreadful fight. We began about two o'clock, and fought till dark night, without perceiving any advantage on either side; and then by consent lay-by till morning without fighting: which we did so nigh, it being calm, that we could talk to one another; but we did it only in threatening language. As soon as the morning dawned, we went to it again, with more fury than before, for our people fought like desperate madmen, well knowing if they should be taken, they must all die. The other ship fought with a bravery uncommon; but I believe the advantage was on our side, though we had killed on board us thirty-six men. We fought on till noon, when we discovered a ship about three leagues to windward of us, which bore down upon us with all the sail they could. We soon conjectured, they could be no friends to us; so without much consultation, we resolved to run it before the wind, with all the sail we could make; as for the *Experiment* we fought with, we had put it out of their power to follow us, for we had shot their main-mast by the board, so that if the other overtook us, we should have but one to deal with. We by good fortune had all our masts firm, and we out-sailed the other vessel; but as soon as she came up with the *Experiment*, (who never offered to follow) she laid-by, as we suppose to assist her, and we observed through our telescopes that she had *Spanish* colours out. We soon lost sight of them, and then we designed to change our course, but were prevented by the men discovering two feet water in the hold; who could not find out the leak, though they searched with all the diligence they could; so we were obliged to pump, but do all that we could, the water still gained upon us; we resolved to bear away to *Jucatan*, a province belonging to the *Spaniards*, and seek out some convenient place, unfrequented by them, where we might find out our leak, and stop it. Notwithstanding our labour in pumping, the water gained so, we put out our long-boat, and our pinnace, in order to put in our provision; which by morning we effected, and very happily for us; for it was agreed upon all hands, that the ship could not swim about eight hours; and though we discovered land, and were not above six leagues off shore, yet we were afraid we could not reach it, as the ship was so heavy with water. So all that could not swim, were ordered into the two boats, with their arms; which held in them thirty-seven men with officers. They

that were left on board, had orders to pump as long as they could, and run directly in shore to the leeward of *Cape Catoch*; but within half a league of the place the ship sunk, and the men betook themselves to swimming, whom we met with our pinnace, and took up. I cannot omit one barbarous action of the captain's. There were five men wounded, who begged to be taken into the boat, but the captain refused them; and this was the reason, as he gave to us in the boat. Said he, 'those five that are wounded, will take up too much room, for they cannot sit as we do, but must lie along; and another thing is, they will take more time in looking after, than we can well spare. Besides, as I believe they will not recover, they will be sooner out of their pain; and if they should recover,' added he, 'they would help us to devour our provision, which we must take particular care of, for we know not when we shall get more.' I must confess, this usage struck me to the heart. After we came on shore, we found that we had killed on board us forty-three men, beside the five that our captain barbarously murdered, by leaving in the ship when she sunk. Two of their bodies were drove on land the next day, but were ordered by the captain to have stones tied to their feet, and carried off and sunk. As soon as we had made us two tents with sails that were put in the boat for that purpose, they began to consult in what manner they should get a ship; when one *Warren* proposed to take the boat, and four men beside himself, with arms, and a week's provision, for he would have no more, and go to the bay of *Campechy* or *Campechy* town, where he did not fear getting a vessel for that purpose; for he said, he had done so upon the like occasion before. Whereupon the boat and four men were ordered for him: but he staying longer than the appointed time, they thought some mischance had happened; which took off their thoughts of having a vessel from him. One day they spied a large paragua coming with nine *Indians* and two *Spaniards* in it; and finding it come so near, that they must of course see them, they immediately resolved either to take or kill them all, for fear they would discover them to the *Spaniards*, before they had got a vessel to go off again. Though I must confess there was some reason, yet I thought it barbarous to see how they murdered the two *Spaniards* and nine *Indians*. They put out their pinnace and ten men well armed, to go and take this paragua; as soon as ever they were discovered by the *Indians*, they jumped over-board, and made toward shore; but were shot by our men, or knocked on the head with the butt-end of their musquets. The two *Spaniards* had a new kind of death; they tied them breast to breast, with their hands behind, and threw them over-board; where they struggled for some time, and at last were drowned. I thought this was a cruelty exceeding all the tyrants in the world; and if I had had a boat, and our people never a one, I would have run any hazard to have saved them. Their paragua was laden with flour, and dried fish, with several sides of dried pork, or bacon; which was too good for the people that had it. As for my own part, but little of it

came to my share; for I was taken ill the second day after we came there, and so weak and feeble, that I did not expect to overcome it; and if it had not been for a Black, that was trumpeter to the captain, I should have perished for want of sustenance; but the poor fellow would frequently bring me something or other to nourish me; and it is to him, under God, that I owe my life. He would often tell me that he did not like that sort of life, and wished he could get rid of his master; 'but' said he, 'if he did but know I had so much as a thought that way, he would be the death of me.' I believe this was the only poor fellow that prayed in the whole crew. He was christened at *Plymouth* in *England* (and had very good notions of religion); where he was given to his present master, who had made several voyages to the *West Indies*, for a *Plymouth* merchant; but on finding matters on shore go but indifferently, and having killed a *French* officer there, he seized upon the ship he used to command, and with a crew of desperate fellows made off to sea, and steered his old course for the *West Indies*, and there commenced pirate; but had met with no other success, than what has been related to you."

John Rouse was the name of this sailor we took on board, born at *Bermudas*. He offered us some proposals, if we would go along with him thither; but I declined it, as wanting to be with my old ship's crew, and thought of seeing my own country again, as I believe all travellers do, who bring nothing home but misfortunes, or the vices of the places they have travelled through.

Two nights after we had parted with the pirate, we were encountered with a dreadful storm, that lasted two days without abating; and our poor bark, which was none of the best, was tumbled and tossed like a tennis-ball, yet we received no damage, but that she would not answer the helm; so that we were obliged to let her go before the tempest, and trust to the mercy of heaven for relief. We in the middle of the storm discovered land right a-head, which put us all into our panics; we endeavoured to bring our vessel to bear up to the wind, but all to no purpose; for she still drove nearer to shore; where we discovered several tokens of a shipwreck, as pieces of broken masts, and barrels swimming on the water; and a little farther, men's hats; then we began to think we should certainly run the same fate; when, as soon as thought, our bark was drove on shore in a smooth sandy bay, but where we had opportunity to quit her, which was happy for us; for the sea washed over her with such violence, that we had not any hopes of her escaping the storm, but thought of course we should be torn to pieces.

When we were ashore, we all concluded it could be no other part but the south of *Cuba Island*, belonging to the *Spaniards*. We were then in a terrible fright, lest we were near any part belonging to the *Indians*; for Mr. *Musgrave* assured me, that there were some parts of the south side of *Cuba*, that *Indians* dwelt in, in spite of the *Spaniards*, and massacred them wherever they met them, or any other Whites. We lay all night in terrible fear; and though we found the storm abated, or rather a calm suc-

ceeded, yet we durst not stir till the moon rose, and then we walked toward our vessel, which we found all on one side; but by good fortune most of our provisions were dry, which mightily rejoiced us; but all the vessel's rigging and masts were shattered and torn in pieces, and some part of her quarter wrung off, so that she could not be of any use to us if we could have got her upright. But we took out all our provision, and our arms, with two barrels of gun-powder that was dry, the rest being damaged with water and sand that had got in. We had arms enough, as having them that belonged to the three sailors that were taken in the pirate, which we supposed they had forgot; so we were six men well armed, with each a musket, a case of pistols, and a bayonet; beside two cutlasses, if need were. By the time we had taken every thing out, day approached; and then we designed altogether, well armed, to go and view the country. *John Rouse* was very well recovered of his fever, but a little weak; yet his heart was as good as the best of us. So we resolved, if we were set upon by the *Indians*, to defend ourselves to the last drop of blood; choosing rather to die by their hands in fight, than to be tortured after the manner as they inflict upon all the Whites they get into their hands. But still we had some hopes that we were too far toward the northward for them. When we had placed our provision and other necessaries safe behind a tuft of trees that grew close by the water-side, we fixed our arms, and ventured to walk up in the country, which we did almost every way that day, four or five miles; but could not discover any living creature, nor any sign of inhabitants; only in one place the grass seemed to be lately trodden, but whether by man or beast we could not discover; so being pretty well tired, we went back to our station, where we ate heartily; and at night we laid ourselves upon the grass, and fell asleep; for we durst not lie upon the sails we had got for that purpose, because they were not dry, though spread all day long.

I was awakened the next morning by a company of lizards creeping over me; which is an harmless animal, frightful enough to look at, but great lovers of mankind. They say that these creatures, if any person lies asleep, and any voracious beast, or the alligator, which comes on shore often, is approaching the place where you lie, will crawl to you as fast as they can, and with their forked tongues tickle you till you awake, that you may avoid by their timely notice the coming danger. I got up, being roused by these animals, and looked about me, but saw nothing except an odd kind of a snake about two feet long, having a head something like a weasel, and eyes fiery like a cat's. As soon as it spied me, it ran away, and my dog after it; who I believe put it in a terrible fright, for it made a noise something like a weasel, but louder; which awakened my companions. When I told Mr. *Musgrave* what I had seen, he said it was a small serpent, but not very hurtful, called the *guabiniquinaze* serpent, from eating a little creature of that name, something

resembling a small mole; and that the *Indians* and *Spaniards* eat of them, and reckon them dainty food.

We now resolved on another walk, to discover what inhabitants were our neighbours, whether *Indians* or *Spaniards*. If *Indians*, we designed to patch up our boat, which had several holes in it, and make off as fast as we could, and row northward till we came to some place inhabited by *Spaniards*. But if we found the latter, to beg protection, and some means to get to *Jamaica*; whereupon we ventured out with these resolutions. We met with several fine large cedar trees, and one particularly so thick, that Mr. *Musgrave* and I could but just fathom it with our hands joined. We had not gone far before my dog began to bark; when turning my head on one side, I beheld a Black approaching toward us; and being startled at the sight, I cocked my piece, and resolved to fire at him; but he called to me in *English*, and told me he did not come to do me any harm, but was a poor distressed *Englishman* that wanted food, being almost starved, not having ate any thing but wild fruit for four days. Upon that I let him come near, where he was soon known by Mr. *Rouse* to be *William Plymouth*, the Black that was trumpeter to the captain who commanded the pirate ship. Upon his knowing him, we sat down and gave him some provision, which we had brought with us, because we designed to be out all day.

After he had refreshed himself a little, we asked him how he came into this island? "Why," answered he, "we were cruising about *Cuba*, in hopes of some *Spanish* prize; when a storm arose, and drove us upon a rock, where our ship was beat to pieces, and not above eighteen men saved beside the captain." "And did that wicked wretch escape the shipwreck?" said I. "Yes," answered *Plymouth*, "but to undergo a more violent death. For as soon as ever we landed, we wandered up in the country to see for some food, without any weapons but a few cutlasses, having lost our fire-arms; but however we all got something or other to defend ourselves with on shore, as long clubs, which we got from the trees we found in our walks. Our captain resolved, that if he met with any *Indians* or *Spaniards* huts, he would murder all he found in them, for fear they should make their escape, and bring more upon us. Thus he encouraged his men to follow him with their clubs. Said he, 'we will walk till we find some beaten path, and there lie hid till night, when we may go on to some houses, and come upon them undiscovered; by which means we may get provision, and also arms:' for the *Indians* of *Cuba* use fire-arms as well as the *Spaniards*, and are full as dextrous at them as any *Europeans*. After travelling about ten miles to the N.W. we discovered a path; upon which a halt was commanded, and to retire into the woods till night; which we did, and dined upon what fruits we could get upon the trees. About two hours before night a dog smelled us out, and running away from us, barked most furiously. Upon that we were afraid of being dis-

covered, which proved true; for in about half an hour after the dog had left us, we were saluted with several arrows and musquet-shot, that killed us three men, and wounded me in the foot, which proved the means of saving my life; for as soon as our men perceived what had happened, they ran as hard as they could to meet the danger, as knowing they could do no good till they came to handy-blows. I, in endeavouring to follow them, found my hurt, which prevented my keeping up with the rest; but I could hear and see them at it. There were about two hundred *Indians* set upon our men, and in about half an hour killed them every one. I saw the captain lay about him desperately, but at last fell, being run through the throat with a wooden stake. As soon as they had conquered, or rather murdered them, they fell to stripping of them as fast as they could, and carried them off, with their dead, which were many, for the *English* sold their lives very dearly. After they were gone, which I found by their noise and screaming at a distance, I ventured to steal out from behind a row of bushes, where I had placed myself to see what had happened. I went to the place of battle, where I found two of our men that they had left, with all their arms, and some of their own; so I took up one of their best musquets, and a cutlass, and made farther into the wood, for fear of being caught; which I had certainly been if I had staid a quarter of an hour longer; for I soon heard them come whooping, screaming, and hallooing back, to fetch the above two bodies, and their arms, as I conjectured. I walked as far as my hurt foot would let me that night, and out of the danger of the *Indians* as I thought, and then laid me down to sleep as well as I could, being very hungry, and sadly tired; and slept pretty well till morning, when I proceeded forward in my painful journey, and directed my course N.E. thinking that was the best way to avoid the *Indians*, and probably to meet with some *Spaniards*, whom I knew inhabited toward the north; the *Havanna*, the capital city of the whole island, being seated there. I wandered four days, eating nothing but fruit in the woods; but laying down about an hour ago, to rest myself a little, I thought I heard the tongues of *Englishmen*, which to my great joy proved true. I left my musquet behind the bushes, for fear of alarming you; but now, after returning God and you thanks for this timely nourishment, I'll go fetch it;" which he did. We might easily know it to be an *Indian* piece, for they had rudely carved it all over with several figures of birds and beasts.

After poor *Plymouth* had refreshed himself, we set forward, and walked along till we came to a road, that seemed to be the main path of the island by its largeness. Here we consulted what we should do; whether we should go on, or return for more provision; but we resolved to go a little distance from the road, for fear we should meet with more of the *Indians*, and run the same fate with the other *Englishmen*. But *Plymouth* told us, we were a great way from that place where his countrymen

were killed (for *Plymouth*, though born in *Guinea*, would always call himself an *Englishman*, as being brought over very young); so we resolved one and all to venture.

We sent up our prayers to the almighty for our safety, and went on with a faith that we should come off with success; but we had not gone far when we heard the reports of several musquets, and shouting in a barbarous manner, behind us. Looking that way, we saw a Mulatto riding as fast as ever his mule could carry him. When he came up to us, he stopped, and cried in *Spanish*, "make haste, run, for the *Indians* are coming upon you; they have killed several *Spaniards* already, and they are fighting with them." Mr. *Musgrave*, who understood *Spanish* very well, interpreted what he had said to us. He then asked the man, how far they were off? He answered, "just by;" and hearing another shout, put spurs to his mule, and left us in an instant. We found by the shouting and the firing, that they would be very soon upon us; so we retired out of the road to let them pass, and laid down upon our bellies, that they might not discover us. Immediately came by four-and-twenty *Spaniards* on horseback, pursued by near a hundred *Indians*. Just as they came by us, one *Spaniard* dropped, and crept into a bush on our side of the road; and presently after the *Indians* followed, shouting in a horrid manner, and overtook the *Spaniards* again, who being very swift of foot, out-ran an ordinary horse; and they had thrown away their fire-arms, to make them the lighter to run, as we supposed. The *Spaniards* knew they would soon overtake them; so only ran to charge their pistols, and stand till they came up; then by discharging them, to put them into confusion; and run again, to prolong the time, in hopes of some aid. All this we understood from the *Spaniard* that crept into the bush undiscovered by the *Indians*, by reason of the horses feet, and the dust together, he being the foremost in flight. He told us moreover, that about three leagues farther there was a fort belonging to the *Spaniards*, erected to stop the *Indians*, they using to make inroads before that fort was built, even to the gates of the city *Havanna*. Upon this we consulted, and resolved to follow upon the edge of the road, to see how we could be assisting. We soon came even with them, for they were in a narrow place, and the *Spaniards* kept them at bay pretty well. By good fortune, there was a high hedge made by trees all along as we went, which hindered us from being discovered. Here we resolved to fire upon them altogether, then run further up, and, if possible, get out into the road, and face them. Accordingly we agreed to fire four and three, and the first four to charge again immediately. Mr. *Musgrave*, Mr. *Middleton*, Mr. *White*, and myself, agreed to fire first; then *Hood*, *Rouse*, and *Plymouth*; which as soon as we had taken good aim, we did; and firing at their backs, killed four downright, and wounded several, for I had ordered them to put two bullets into each piece. As soon as ever we had fired our musquets, we let fly one pistol each, and then the other three fired their

guns. As soon as *Plymouth* had fired, he ran and charged our four guns (he having never a pistol), and then we let fly our other pistols. With these discharges we had killed at least fifteen *Indians*, and put the rest into such a fright that they began to run (for with the dust and bustle they made, they could hardly distinguish from whence the fire came); neither did they stop till they met with the wounded *Spaniard*, who had crept out, hearing the discharge of our pieces. They fell upon the poor fellow with shouts and outcries, and tore him to pieces, never minding the *Spaniards* pursuing them, who cried out, *miraculo! miraculo!* a miracle! a miracle! By this time we had got within twenty yards of the end of the hedge, where we seven fired our musquets, and left them with *Plymouth* to charge; then we ran in upon them with our pistols, which we discharged close on them. With this last fire we dropped them twelve men; then the rest screamed out, and ran away as fast as they could. We did not think fit to follow them; for it was not to any purpose, as they were soon out of sight. We charged our guns and pistols again; and the twelve *Spaniards* did the like, having nine in the last conflict killed, and two desperately wounded. They gave us thanks for their rescue, and said we were surely sent from heaven to their relief. They let us know they were tax-gatherers to the king of *Spain*, and were obliged to go in numbers, and well armed, for fear of these *Indians*; who about nine years ago set upon them, and killed eighteen of them, two only having escaped, but never met with any molestation from that time till now; so that this time, thinking the danger over, they lessened their number from fifty to thirty; which they supposed the *Indians* having notice of, was the occasion of their setting upon them. They said it was to no purpose to go back, for the other six that were killed in the former action; which being a mile off, they had taken with them.

We had not gone above half a league onward, before we heard dreadful shoutings as before; and looking behind us, it being a straight road, we could perceive a cloud of dust, and the *Indians* running full speed toward us. Upon which we put down our two wounded men that were on horseback, and mounted upon the *Spaniards* spare horses. Now we being nineteen horsemen, resolved to stand it. We divided into ranks, four in each, which made five divisions; only there were but three in the last rank. So we determined to keep directly one behind the other; and when the first file had fired, to fall in the rear, and charge again. The *Spaniards* insisted on making up the first three ranks, as they said they could not in honour expose us to the first onset, because we ventured our lives in coming to their assistance. We had no time to dispute, for now they were just upon us, and to our surprise had several fire-arms among them. As soon as they got within a hundred paces of us, they fired; but not above two of their pieces, went off; the rest were so clogged with dust in running, that very happily for us hindered their discharging. The shot providentially

missed us, and we would not give them time to charge again, but moved forward, and fired in upon them, which did great execution. When it came to our turn to fire, we in the heat forgot our orders; but after we had discharged our guns and pistols, we fell in with our cutlasses; and being raised above them, by being on horseback, did great execution; and that, with the *Spaniards* charging and firing again, put them to the rout; but now we followed, and dispersed them, so that it was impossible for them to rally any more that night. We took four of them prisoners; and tying their hands behind, fastened them to two of our foremost horses, the rest following after, that they might not get loose. We were met in the road by twenty *Spanish* horse, with each a foot-soldier behind them, who were upon the full gallop to our assistance, being alarmed by the Mulatto that rode by; but I believe some were glad they came too late. The officer and the rest saluted us very courteously, when they heard how luckily we came to their assistance; but fell a whipping the poor naked *Indians* so barbarously, that though they deserved it, I could not bear to see it done in cool blood; for though the blood followed every lash, yet they never cried out.

We arrived at the fort about evening, and were very well entertained. The officer did not doubt but to procure us a ship to transport us to *Jamaica*, though he had orders from *Havanna* to secure all *English* vessels, there being a war talked of between the *Spanish*, *French*, *English*, and *Dutch*. The next day the officer mightily bragged of being an old *Spaniard*, that is, born in *Spain*, and of an ancient family. Mr. *Musgrave* made us very merry upon the road, in interpreting the don's speeches. We found all along from the fort, a great many gentlemens houses, pleasantly situated, and the country all along yielded delightful prospects. We were well entertained at a gentleman's house at dinner with provisions dressed after the *English* way, and all manner of sweetmeats and cool wines. But as soon as we had dined, we were obliged to get on horseback, and away for the *Havanna*, which we reached about six o'clock in the evening. We had rooms allotted us; and some *English* and *Irish* men came to see us that lived there. I also met with a priest, who came to see us every day, and in such a friendly manner, that charmed us all. He was always sending us one good thing or other, and would take us abroad to divert us. He understood *Latin*, and *English* very well. On the *Sunday* he preached a good sermon in *Spanish*, as Mr. *Musgrave* informed us, whose chief heads ran upon us, and to excite charity in the auditors, to let us have what was necessary in carrying us to *Jamaica*. The next day he brought to us the value of fifty pounds in *Spanish* dollars, which were collected at the church-door for us. There was a small vessel of about forty ton upon the stocks, that was bought of the owners for us, and a collection made in the town for money to pay for it. We told them of the provision we had left on shore, which by our computation could not be above twenty leagues off; but they told

us it would be difficult to find it. We were told our vessel was ready, and therefore might be going when we pleased. It was a very neat one as ever was built by the *Spaniards*, and carried between thirty and forty ton. We had all sorts of provision sent on board for half a year, or more, so that we only staid for the wind to rise, it being quite calm.

We took our leaves of the good father, who blessed and embraced us, and said he would pray to heaven for our prosperous voyage. So on the next day we paid our hearty acknowledgments to all our benefactors, and went on board; where we had not been a quarter of an hour, before an extraordinary message came from the governor for *Plymouth*, our Black, who went with him without any hesitation, and returned with a present from the governor, of several bottles of arrack, *Spanish* wines, fowls, rice, and brandy, with twenty pieces of *Spanish* gold, as the messenger told us, in recompense for the loss of one of our companions; for the governor had sent for *Plymouth*, to know if he would serve him in quality of his trumpeter, and would settle a pension upon him for life. *Plymouth* thought fit to accept of it, as having no master, nor knowing when he should have one: but he got leave to come on board to bid us farewell, which he did in a very affectionate manner. I bade him have a care to please the governor, and then he need not fear doing well; so we parted with *Plymouth*, with our hearty thanks recommended to father *Antonio* for all his favours. *Plymouth* had a trumpet given him by the governor, as soon as he came on shore, which he brought with him, and sounded all the way in the boat, as he went back again, to oblige us; for really he sounded extraordinary well, and had learned to play on several other instruments, having a tolerable understanding in music. We were sorry to part with *Plymouth*, as being a faithful honest fellow, yet glad he had got so good a master. The wind rising, we weighed anchor, and left the port with three huzza's, and a volley of small arms (we having no cannon); and in two days lost sight of the Island of *Cuba*.

The weather continued favourable, so that we arrived at *Jamaica* without meeting any thing remarkable in the passage. As soon as we had cast anchor, I ordered the boat to be made ready to carry me on board my own ship, which I saw ride there. But when I got up to the ship's side, I found my clothes selling at the mast, at "*who bids more?*" which is the method, as soon as a person is dead, or killed. The first harbour they anchor in, the clothes of the deceased are brought upon deck, and sold by auction, the money to be paid when they come to *England*, for it generally happens that sailors have not any till they come home again. They were at the last article, when I came up to the ship-side; which was a pair of black worsted stockings that cost I believe about four shillings, which went at twelve and-sixpence, though they had been worn. As soon as I was seen by them, some cried out "a ghost! a ghost!" and others ran away to secure the clothes they had just bought, suspecting that now I would have them again. When they were

fatisfied of my being alive, and were told my story, they were all rejoiced at my good fortune, but none would be prevailed upon to let me have my clothes again. So I took up the shop-book, and reckoned what they were sold for; when I found, that what cost me about twenty pounds, were sold for four times that money. When I was satisfied in that, I called every person, one by one, that had bought any of my clothes; and striking a bargain with them for ready money, bought them for about ten pound, the cash down pleasing them mightily.

Captain *Wase* being sick ashore, I went to pay him a visit, where he was mightily glad to see me, as believing I had perished. He told me, that the vessel hung lights out for several hours, that I might know where to swim to; and laid-by as long as the wind would permit, as the crew acquainted him when they came into harbour. The captain told me, that he did not think he should live long; therefore was glad I was come to take charge of the ship; which had sailed before, if he had been in a condition to bear the sea. From thence I went on board my new bark, and settled my affairs there with my companions, who were mighty sorry to think of parting with me. *Hood* and *Rouse* desired they might be received on board as sailors, and go for *England* with us; for *Hood* was an *Englishman*, I mean born in *England*, and *Rouse* had friends there. Besides, it was as easy to go from *England* to *Bermudas*, as from *Jamaica*. So I spoke to the captain, who was very well pleased to receive them, for he had lost five men by the distemper of the country. The poor captain died in a week after my coming, and left me executor for his wife, who lived at *Bristol*.

As soon as we had buried him, I went on board with my two men, and did design to sail in three days at farthest, which I would have done before, but that I was hindered by wanting a chapman for our bark, as we had shares to dispose of. When I came on board, the master told me he had no occasion for the two men to add to their charge. Said I, "that is as I shall think fit, for the power is in my hands now."—"And who put that power into your hands?" said the master. "He that had power so to do;" said I, "the captain;" whereupon I shewed him it in writing. He told me it did not signify any thing, and that he would find no one of the sailors would obey a boy, incapable to steer a vessel. Said I, "I don't desire to have any command over you, but only to represent the captain that is deceased." "We have no want of any representatives," replied the master, "and you shall go in your own station, or not at all. It would be a pretty thing," added he, "for my mate to become my captain; and as I was designed by the captain to have the command of the vessel before you came, so I intend to keep it."—"But," said I, "this paper, signed by his own hand, is but of two days date, and you cannot shew any thing for the command, as you pretend to: therefore I'll make my complaint to the governor, and he shall right me."—"Ay, ay, do so!" said he, "I'll stand to any thing he shall command." Whereupon *Rouse*, *Hood*,

and myself went into the boat again, and rowed immediately on shore; but the governor was six miles up in the country; and it being pretty late, we designed to wait for his coming home, which we were told would be in the morning early. So I went on board the bark, and lay there all night, the ship lying beyond the keys two leagues from the harbour, in order to sail. The next morning getting up with an intent to wait upon the governor, and looking toward the place where the ship lay every night, I found she was gone; and casting my eyes toward sea, saw a vessel four or five leagues distant from us, which we supposed to be ours. I immediately went on shore, and found the governor just come to town; when I made my complaint. He told me there was no remedy, but to send immediately to *Blewfields Bay*, where he supposed they would stop to get wood, which was usual with our ships that were bound for *England*. Whereupon there was a messenger ordered for *Blewfields*, whom I accompanied, to give instructions to the officer that commanded at the fort, to seize the master of the ship, and order him before the governor at *Port Royal*. We then got on horseback, and reached it in three days, it being almost a hundred miles. When we came there, we found several ships in the harbour, but none that we wanted; so we waited a week, but all to no purpose, for she passed the bay, as mistrusting our design. Upon this we were obliged to return with a heavy heart, and tell the governor of our ill success; who pitied me, and told me he would see me shipped in the first vessel bound for *England*. I then went on board my own bark, where they were all glad to see me, though sorry I was so disappointed. I was very glad that I had not disposed of my bark, for I thought now it might be of use to me. We consulted together, to know what was best to do; and at last I made a bargain with them, that if they would venture with me in our bark to *England*, I would give them not only my share of her, but as much money as came to the other two shares, if they would be willing to part with them. Upon this we agreed; and with what money I had, I began to lade my vessel with things to traffic with. I bought a good quantity of indigo, some cotton, sugar, and rum. In short, I laid out the best part of my money; and on *June* the 1st, 1700, set sail with a brisk gale, first saluting the town with our four guns, and four patteraroes, which I had forgot to mention our having bought at *Port Royal*.

In two days after our sailing we made cape *Florida*, and entered the gulf that bears the same name, and passed it without danger. But here a sudden calm overtook us, as frequently happens when you are past the gulf; and the current set strong to westward, occasioned, as we supposed, by the opening of the land upon that coast. The calm lasting four days, we were insensibly carried within half a league of the shore; but a little breeze rising from land, helped us farther out again. Still our danger more increased; for we soon perceived three large canoes making fast toward us, full of *Indians*. We had not much

1700

time to consult what to do, for they gained upon us every moment. Now death, or something worse than death, stared us in the face; and most of us thought this was the last day we had to live. "Come, friends," said I; "if we must die, let us die brave like *Englishmen*. To die is just as common as to live, only life is choice; but death we still pursue, and every step we take shortens our journey. If then we follow death, why should we fear? Or if we should fear, what would that avail? since fearing cannot put back the fatal hour. Then let us, like those that would dispose of somewhat, do it to the best advantage." We charged our four guns with double and round, and our patteraroes with musket-balls. The rest of our arms we got in readiness, and resolved to die fighting, and not suffer ourselves to be taken, and miserably butchered, as all the *Indians* of *Florida* serve the Whites, when they get any of them in their power. We resolved to fire our six muskets upon them as soon as they came within reach. So we took our aim, two at each canoe, and fired upon them; which did them some damage, for they stopped upon it, which caused us to make the best of our way; but they soon pursued us with loud and rude shouts. By this time we had charged our musquets again, and fired as before at the same distance; but whatever damage we did them, they came on as fast as they could, but not before we had charged our pieces the third time; which we fired as before, but did more execution, they being nearer to us; and now we charged them the fourth time, and laid them along upon the deck for a farther occasion; for they were so nigh that our great guns would reach them with our double and round, which we fired one at a time. The first we fired at was the largest canoe, which put them in such confusion, that they fell foul of one another; and being in a huddle together, we fired the other three, which made a mighty havoc among them. We now thought of a victory, instead of being made slaves; and bore up to them, that we might make our patteraroes of use to us, which we fired upon them with musket-shot, that answered our end; for now they began to turn tail; which we seeing, fired our muskets a fourth time, and killed them two *Indians*. Then charging our great guns with single balls of three pound weight (or three pounders, as they call them at sea), and firing at their canoes, we sunk one of them; but the men swam to another; and taking hold of the sides, with their weight turned it over. Mr. *Musgrave*, and the rest of our men, advised us to make up to them, and in this confusion kill them all. But I was satisfied with the disappointment they had met with; and as it was not in their power to hurt us further, resolved to make the best of our way; but looking toward the shore, saw eight more of their canoes making up to us. This put us upon making all the sail we could; and the sea-breeze being pretty strong, we made good way. We thought the canoes would stay when they came up with the other three, but they made after us along with those *Indians* that they had taken up. We had charged our

large guns with great shot, and fired at them, but missed them. We charged them the second time, when one shot, by good fortune, took the first canoe, and overfet her; which put them into more confusion than before. Nevertheless, five of them still pursued us, which were met with by some of our musket-balls, that gave them their *quietus est*; and firing our great guns once more, sunk one of their canoes; but the men soon got into the others, and followed us still. Seeing this, we resolved to make one strong effort, and make the best of our way; so we backed our main sail, and laid-by for them, and brought our four guns to one side, and our four patteraroes to bear accordingly; we charged our muskets once more, and laid them in readiness, with two half-pikes, and our cutlasses; and now we resolved not to fire till every gun might do execution. We staid till they came within two ships length of us, and then we fired upon them as fast as ever we could; which proved effectual, for we killed them at least twenty. Upon which, they set up dreadful uncommon noises, and rowed back as fast as ever they could. We gave them our farewell musket-shots, and made the best of our way. By a moderate computation, we killed at least fifty *Indians*, without their once firing at us; neither could we conceive how they intended to assault us, or whether they had any fire-arms, for we saw none. After we had brought our vessel to rights again, we assembled ourselves to prayers, and returned our sincere thanks to the defender of the weak, and giver of all good things, for our happy deliverance. We saw the canoes paddling toward shore, and were met by several others, with a design, as we supposed, to assist them; but we were now too far for them, and there was nothing more to be feared; so we sailed on with a prosperous gale, and met with nothing worth notice, till *Thursday, July the 15th*, we discovered land; which amazed us all, for we did not think of falling in with any shore till we saw *England*. We consulted our charts, and observed we were near *Newfoundland*; and finding that, we steered directly into *St. John's harbour*, which is the capital of the island, I mean of that part which belongs to the *English*.

After being here two days, we set sail, and renewed our course for *England, July 25, 1700*. We met with no extraordinary accident in our passage, till we discovered the Land's End, *August the 21st*. How rejoiced I was to see my native country, let them judge that have been in the same condition. I can with truth say, that the transports I felt at first seeing the white cliffs of the island that gave me birth, exceeded the joy I received when I was delivered from the most imminent danger. Here we consulted, whether it were better for us to go to *London*, or to *Bristol*; but every one allowed *London* to be the best mart for our goods; so we made for the *Thames*; and the weather being fair, and a brisk gale, we anchored over-against *Shadwell dock*. Now all that we had to do was to get a chapman for our goods. I therefore applied myself to a merchant upon *Change*, who soon struck a bargain; and, with the consent of my companions,

fold the lading, bottom and all, for nine hundred and twenty pounds; reckoning the lading seven hundred pounds, which was my own; and two hundred and twenty for the vessel, with every thing beside. They were all contented with their dividend, but still resolved to go with me to *Bristol*, to see after my affairs there. So we set out on foot, intending to walk it, and be a little merry upon the road; for we expected more diversion by walking leisurely, than going in any other manner. I had turned all my money into Bank bills, which amounted to 800*l.* with the cash that I had for my goods, and sewed them in the waistband of my breeches, not that there could be any danger, being so many in company. We took the *Salisbury* road, though something out of our way, I being resolved to carry my friends to *Bruton*, the place of my birth. Coming through *Basingstoke*, a sailor met us, begging charity for God's sake. I gave him sixpence, which he returned me many thanks for. I asked him how it came to pass, that a lusty sailor as he was did not go to sea? (especially now war was talked of between the *English* and *French*.) He answered, he was going to *London* with that intent, but was obliged to be beholden to good men to assist him in his journey. "Why," pursued I, "have you no friends?"—"No," answered he, "this is my first day. I have made an end of the little money I had last night." Said I, "have you been long from sea?"—"But a week," answered he. "I had the misfortune to be cast away in sight of harbour." "From whence came you!" asked I. Said he, "we came from *Jamaica*, and were bound for *Bristol*; but a violent storm overtook us within six leagues of the mouth of the river *Severn*, and drove our ship upon some rocks in the mouth of the bay, and all the men perished but myself."—"From *Jamaica*!" said I. "Pray, what ship?"—"The *Albion* frigate," replied he. "Who was your captain?" added I. "The captain died at *Jamaica*; but the master supplied his place, one *Jacob Bingley*." "Did you ever hear of one *Falconer*?"—"Yes, he was the mate, supposed to be lost in a voyage he made to the bay of *Campechy*; but coming safe into harbour afterward, the captain before his death gave him the command of our ship; but the master not approving of such a young man to have the power over him, set sail without him. This I learnt on board afterward; for I and another sailor were hired for the voyage that afternoon, before the morning we set sail. We had but an indifferent passage the whole voyage, which was made up with nothing but storms and calms, that caused much uneasiness; and our provision received damage by the salt water, which drove us to the last extremity; and when we were raised in our hopes of setting our feet upon my native country, we were devoured by the tempestuous waves. I myself was taken up or dead upon the shore by a fisherman."—"Have you any friends at *London*?" said I. "None," replied he; "every place to me is home; a sailor is never out of his way."—"If so," said I, "return with us to *Bristol*, where we are bound; and I'll pro-

mise you, if I cannot get you a ship, I will give you wherewithal to carry you to *London* without begging. We easily agreed upon the matter, and honest Tar went with us. We came to *Burton*, and took lodgings in the Magpye inn, where I visited all my acquaintance; and from thence we went in the same manner to *Bristol*, where the first thing I did was to inquire after my poor father; but I was informed by captain *Pultney*, that he thought he was certainly dead; though he had seen him but once since I had been abroad, and that was in the *January* before, when he came privately to him, and told him he was settled in a small village near *Hereford*, and went by the name of *Hawkins*. "What convinces me he is dead," says he, "is, that about two months ago he sent me a letter, which I will show you." He went up stairs, and fetched it. It contained these words:—

"SIR,

"When I had settled myself in my little tenement, I began to think of turning farmer, that I might have some employment to pass away the tedious hours of my voluntary banishment; but going the other day to view a hollow place, where we had our marl to marl our ground, the earth on a sudden fell upon me, and I was scarce taken out alive, my back broke, and bruised all over in a piteous manner. This is the first day of ease that I have had from my excruciating pain. It is allowed, and I am very well satisfied, that I cannot survive it. Pray be kind to my dear Dick, if he ever lives to come home; if not, what I have deposited in your hands, let it remain with you for your own use, since my daughter is provided for. If I should, contrary to the expectation of every body, recover, you shall hear from me very soon; if not, believe that I am returned to earth, from whence I came. I hope I need not caution you once more to be kind to my poor boy, if he should return, and be a father to him; comfort him amid his affliction, and restore to him what I left with you, with a dying parent's blessing, that he may be as happy as his wretched father was miserable; which is the hearty desire of your friend and servant.

R. FALCONER."

Grief so overcame me for a time, that I was not able to speak; to be deprived of a father, and one whom I loved so dearly, was a cutting stroke; and I was constrained to make use of all my young philosophy to support it. He had left the writing of his estate with captain *Pultney*, having only mortgaged it before for five hundred pounds to a friend, to prevent its being seized on by the crown; which was redeemed by the captain, according to my father's appointment, when he came to see him last. I paid him his mortgage; and he advised me to part with it, unless I designed to settle in *England*, which I thought was the best way, whether I staid or not. The captain undertook the business, and sold it for four thousand pounds. But while he was busy about it, I got Mr. *Musgrave*, who was always my bosom friend, to go to *Hereford*, and, if it were possible, find out where my dear father was buried, and to see how matters stood there. Accordingly we hired a couple of horses, and set out.

When we arrived there, we found it not a little difficult ; but at last, through the means of one Mr. *Hall*, organist of the cathedral church, we had sight of the place, which was about half a mile from the city. Mr. *Hall* came by the knowledge of it through the means of an honest clergyman, with whom my father had contracted a friendship, before that unhappy accident befel him that deprived him of his life. He brought us to his house, where the gentleman was laid up with a fit of the gout. As soon as we were private, I let him know who I was ; upon which he tenderly embraced me, and was mightily joyed to see the son of his late friend. Said he, “ I should have been at *Bristol* ere now, but that the gout prevented me. Your father was a person I had only a short acquaintance with, yet that little time discovered him to be a man of integrity, honesty, and honour. When he was upon his death-bed, he told me his real name and circumstances, and what misfortunes had brought him to this part. He told me also, that he had a son at sea, and begged me to dispose of the little fortune he had here, and see it put into the hands of captain *Pultney* at *Bristol* ; which I had done, but was prevented, as I said before, by this sudden fit of the gout. I have taken care of all your father’s effects ; and the little farm I have bought myself, it being for my turn.” Upon that he sent his maid for a little box, which he unlocked, and told me out two hundred guineas. “ This is what your father left in ready money behind him. His farm, &c. I rate at two hundred and fifty pounds more ; there are the writings, and there is the money.” By the writings, I saw it cost my father but two hundred. “ As for his apparel, and other little necessaries, I gave them, by his order, to a maid servant, and a man that he hired ; and for his goods, there are but few, nor have we made any estimate of them ; but if you’ll have them appraised, I will give something more than what they are valued at, being I would willingly have them along with the house.” Said I, “ neither shall they be parted ; and if you please to accept of them, be they what they will, you shall be heartily welcome.” He refused them obstinately, but at last I prevailed with him to take them. He also gave me a ring, which I prized mightily, because it had been my father’s from his infancy, given him by my grandfather. When he had settled every thing, I went to see the place where my father’s bones were laid, which filled me with such awful sorrow, that I could not refrain from weeping, in spite of my resolution to the contrary.

After leaving my father’s grave with a load of sorrow, we took leave of my friend the parson, and Mr. *Hall*, and rode for *Bristol* again ; where all our friends waited impatiently for us, because we had exceeded our time three days. After having settled my money in the hands of people that the captain appointed to improve it for me, I resolved to make a trip to *Ireland*, to see my sister, who was married very well to a merchant there. But hearing of the grand fleet making preparation for some expedition, it put us all agog ; and my natural genius for travel

made me once more resolve to be gadding. I opened my mind to captain *Pultney*, who advised me to the contrary; but I told him I was so much concerned for my father's death, that I should sooner wear it off at sea than on shore. He was very well satisfied with my reasons at last; "but," said he, "I would not have you go in any post, but as a volunteer, that you may not be confined to stay longer than you should desire." I thought this the best way; therefore resolved for *London* with all my companions, and got us a ship. I had letters of recommendation to secretary *Burchet*, and several gentlemen that had the management of the navy. We arrived at *London*, *February* the 8th, 1701. Mr. *Musgrave* and I entered on board the *Breda*, captain *Fog* commander, because we were informed admiral *Benbow* would hoist his flag in that ship. Mr. *Musgrave* having formerly been acquainted with the admiral, waited upon him, and had a warrant for a quarter-master given him. The rest of our companions entered before the mast, that is common sailors, in the same ship. *Hood* was soon made cook's mate, and the rest of them got some little office, that raised them something above the common sailors, though they entered as such, and all by the means of Mr. *Musgrave*, who acquainted the admiral with their fortunes. When we had sent all our things on board, and not knowing when they would sail, Mr. *Musgrave* and I got leave to go to *Portsmouth* by land, where we arrived on *Saturday*, the 3d of *March*, and stayed till the *English* and *Dutch* fleet came there. A squadron was ordered out to cruise, of which our ship was one, but an unlucky accident hindered my going with her (but Mr. *Musgrave* was forced to go against his inclinations, and leave me behind him); which was as follows:—One evening, coming from seeing a play at the Bull's Head, a gentleman conducting out a lady, the crowd by chance jostled me against her; which her companion, Mr. *Martin* (nephew to *Johnny Gibson*, governor of the place) took as an affront put upon him, having the care of the lady; but I begged her pardon, and told her it was an accident I could not help; but he being in a strange passion, called me several ungenteel names, as rogue, rascal, and such like, and struck me over the head with his cane. Though I did not much mind his words, I did not care to take his blows without a return, which I did with interest, and we soon parted. But an hour after, being at the aforesaid inn at supper, the drawer came up and told us, there was a gentleman below desired to speak one word with Mr. *Falconer*. There was one Mr. *Langley*, lieutenant to the *Windsor* man of war, that I had made an acquaintance with at the play, who had promised to come and sup with us; so that I took the message to come from him, but was surprised to find it the gentleman that I had the bustle with. He said, he wanted to drink a glass of wine with me; and led me into a room. When we were there, he told me he came for satisfaction for the affront I put upon him about an hour ago; "therefore draw," added he, "or I'll run you through." I endeavoured to pacify him with good words, yet all to no pur-

pose; he made so many thrusts at me, that I was in danger of my life; but at last I disarmed him, though not without receiving a slight wound in my arm. As soon as I gave him his sword again, he pushed at me with all the malice imaginable; when hearing the people coming from all parts of the house to see what was the matter, he clapped his back against the door, to keep them out; which they on the other side broke open; and giving him a push, his breast ran against the sword, which appeared at his back, and he fell down without any sign of life. The people coming in, I was immediately secured, and carried to prison, till they knew whether he would live or die. I was mightily concerned, not that any danger was to be feared, but that it would be a hindrance to my voyage. The gentleman continued in a violent fever a great while, and his life was despaired of; but at last, after a tedious illness, recovered, but continued weak. One day he came in a chair to visit me where I was confined, and told me he was very sorry for what had happened, and that to-day I should be at liberty; accordingly an order came in the afternoon for my freedom, without paying my fees. But to my great grief the fleet was sailed, and *Benbow's* squadron designed for the *Indies*. However, Mr. *Martin* begged me to be patient, and he would procure me a passage in a store-ship, that would sail in a week at farthest for *Jamaica*. He was as good as his word; for the next day he carried me to captain *Young*, commander of the *Tiger* store-ship, and entered me immediately. Then my heart began to be at rest; and I gave him thanks. During the time we staid there, Mr. *Martin* and I were very intimate; and he expressed himself so genteely about our former encounter, that he gained my esteem.

We set sail from *Spithead*, May 18, 1701; and our captain gave us hopes of overtaking the fleet, by reason, he said, one ship could make better way, as a whole fleet were obliged to wait for one another. We met with nothing extraordinary except a storm, that drove us almost upon the island of *Madeira*; which being so nigh, the captain resolved to anchor at; and accordingly we did so, in the bay of the city of *Funchal*, the capital of the place. Capt. *Young* and I went on shore to view the town.

After we had made an end of our affairs, we set sail from thence, and directed our course for *Teneriffe*, one of the *Canary* islands, or the *Insula Fortunata* of *Ptolemy*, where we safely arrived. This island lies in twenty-seven degrees, and thirty minutes; about fourteen leagues in length. *Santa Cruz*, the place where we anchored, is the chief harbour. It is an island very well inhabited, containing three towns, and many villages.

When we had satisfied our curiosities as far as we could, we set sail from *Teneriffe*, and made our course for the *West Indies*. We met a *Dutch* ship from *Batavia*, that was drove by ill weather several degrees out of her course. We spared them what necessaries we could, as they were in great want, and then took our leaves of them. The same evening a storm overtook us, and drove us out of our course, but in the night it turned stark calm.

The next morning we discovered a galley with *Turkish* colours out, rowing up to us with all their strength: we were all surprised and amazed, and could hardly give credit to our eyes, as no one on board us ever heard of a *Turkish* galley so far from their own coast; but it seems we were nigher *Africa* than we supposed, as it proved afterward. Our captain told us we had nothing to do but to fight it to the last; for if we were taken, we might be slaves all our lives. I advised our captain to put out our boat, and tow our ship from them. "For," said I, "if a wind does not rise in the mean time, that we may escape them, we shall gain more time to put ourselves in readiness to receive them, when they come up with us." This advice was approved of, and the boat was immediately got out with six men, and I obliged to go along with her to steer her right, that they might row with all their strength. We rowed so tightly for an hour, that we made pretty good way with our ship; but for all our endeavours, we found that in about another hour they would get up with us; but we designed to row till they were within a quarter of a mile of us, and then go into the ship again. In the mean time our men on board had prepared every thing, and were in good order to receive them. We had sixteen guns, forty men, and ammunition enough. We were preparing to come on board, when we found they were almost up with us; but our captain advised me not, and ordered us to have arms in the boat, with some hand-granados; and as soon as we should see them engaged, to go to the contrary side of the enemy, and fire upon them; by that means we should so amuse them, that they would not venture to board us. Immediately it was agreed; and two more men, together with our arms, were put into us. The galley came up in an instant, and hailed us in *English*, and bade us strike our colours immediately, but were answered by our cannon instead of our voices, and we went to it. Now to obey my orders, I loosed my tow-rope, rowed to get on the other side of the galley, but was mightily surprised to find their boat out, and about the number of twenty *Turks* getting into her; our men in the boat advised immediately to return; but I told them it was too late, for it would be worse if we did. Nay, our captain called us on board, but I thought they would do us more injury in getting up to the ship's side, than if we stood them boldly; which we resolved to do. There were nine of us, and we had arms enough; so before they could fire, we discharged our muskets at them, and laid ourselves under the gunnel of our boat to charge again. When we were prepared, I ordered them not to stir till the *Turks* had fired; and as soon as they had done so, to set fire to the fuzee of their hand-granados, and throw them in upon them. As soon as we heard the *Turks* fire, which did us no damage, we set fire to our hand-granados as agreed upon, and threw them in upon them; but they suspecting something, it seems, ordered but half their number to fire first; and the other half fired upon us so unluckily, when we rose to discharge our granados, that they killed three

of my men outright, wounded another dangerously, and myself in the left arm. It is true our granados killed four of them, and wounded several; but still their number doubled ours, and now they prepared to board us. My five companions and myself fired upon them with our pieces, but could not prevent them boarding us; yet we clubbed our muskets on both sides, and fell to work; but a *Turk* coming behind me while I was engaging with another, struck the cock of his pistol into my skull, and I dropped down for dead; but when I came to myself, which was not for several hours, as I was told, I found myself on board the galley. They had ordered a surgeon to dress my wounds, which were three; one in my left arm, that in my skull, and another upon the side of my throat, which I did not feel in receiving. I was ordered to be taken particular care of; for as I was not in a sailor's habit, they thought I was something above the rest, and therefore hoped to get a considerable sum for my ransom. The surgeon that dressed me was an *Englishman*, whose name was *Mattheus*. The captain was an *Englishman* too, born at *Deptford*, but the vilest wretch sure that ever breathed. There were several other *English* renegados on board, most of them profligate wretches. I understood from my surgeon, that the two vessels parted after a desperate engagement, in which the *Turks* had about fifty men killed and wounded. Three of my companions were prisoners likewise, the fourth being killed in the conflict, and the other having expired in the boat through his wounds. When I began to mend, I walked upon deck, and looked about me a little; the other three having got well, renounced their religion.

The captain of the galley ordered me one day to be brought before him on the deck; where he told me, that if I did not in a twelvemonth procure him to the value of 800*l.* for my ransom, I should be chained to the oar, and be a slave all my life. (It seems one of the three that was taken with me, had told him of my abilities, and that I was possessed of a plentiful fortune.) I answered, I would send to *England*, and do my endeavour to get that sum; but I told him it was more than I was worth, and there were no hopes of such money for it, unless my friends would out of charity forward it. I added, I believed I could raise a hundred and fifty, or two hundred pounds. But he stuck to his text, and told me, he would bate me nothing of that; and when the time was expired that he had fixed, if the money did not come, I should never have my liberty. I told him, I would do my endeavour to procure it for him, and had liberty to write to my friends in *England*.

The captain did design to cruize a month longer, that he might take some prize to make him amends for his last disappointment. He never importuned me to forsake my religion; as in that case he would not have had any hopes of my money to redeem me. We coasted off the shore of *Africa* a fortnight or three weeks, but met with no prize, which enraged the captain very much. One day the surgeon dressing the wound in

my head, slipped into my hand a letter, which he bade me read cautiously, and give him an answer the next day. I had not an opportunity for several hours to read the contents. At last, I counterfeited a sudden weakness, and retired to my cabin, which was in the place we call the fore-castle. When I laid myself down, and found no one was near me, I opened my letter, and read the contents to this effect:—

“We whose names are subscribed to this have resolved upon a stratagem for our liberty. There are seven of us English, beside yourself; and the galley-slaves are twenty in number, who have notice of the project. One of the English, who has the keys of the galley-slaves chains, is also one of our number. Our project must be put speedily in execution, as they will go into harbour in ten days, and then it will be impossible to effect it. We will procure arms, and give you further notice of the hour. We must not seem to converse together, neither must you take it ill if you find we give you bad language now and then, it being only to insinuate ourselves into the good esteem of the Turks. When we have redeemed the slaves, we shall be twenty-eight in number, which will be a sufficient strength to cope with the Turks, they being but forty-one in all. We will convey arms into your cabin by the means of Mr. Matthews, and we doubt not, by the blessing of God, we shall enjoy our liberty.”

(Signed) *“Ralph Smallwood, George Kirk, Richard Sloane, Geo. Jenkins, Wm. Ashton, Edw. Wilkins, Anth. Matthews.”*

After I had read it, I prayed to God to aid us in our design. The next day Mr. Matthews came to dress me as before. I gave him to understand, that I had read and considered the letter, and told him my opinion was to execute it as fast as ever we could, for fear of any accident that might happen. He said, “we must wait a convenient time; for if we should fail, we must expect the worst of torments.” At night he told me in French very low, that the next morning early was designed for our enterprize, as it was some fast-day with them; that they usually rise at four in the morning, wash themselves all over, and then pray to their prophet for some time; and this being to be done below, they thought then would be the best time. Accordingly all that night they spent secretly in preparing every thing. He that commanded the slaves (which was Jenkins) found fault with them for something, and chastised them as usual, but took the opportunity to unlock them all, and ordered them to lie still as if their chains were fast, till they had orders to do otherwise. Every thing succeeded to our wishes, for the Turks got up to their devotion sooner than we expected, even before it was light; and huddling down together, we clapped to the hatches, and secured the best part of them. The captain, with two Englishmen and one Frenchman, were seized in the cabin, and bound hand and foot; and this without any noise. About eight others, who had not got up as early as the rest, our galley-slaves seized; and before we could prevent them, had killed them all, and begged they might serve the captain and the

whole crew in the same manner. The bustle they made in killing the eight *Turks*, roused the others from their prayers; and when they found they were shut down, they made a noise, and knocked for us to let them out, which we did; but first we loaded a great gun with musket-shot, and turned the muzzle toward the scuttle. Then as they came up, we bound them; but being only few *English*, we could not hinder the slaves from killing several of these too. At last we bound the rest, being twenty-five, there being killed by the slaves sixteen; and afterward, by the consent and agreement of all, we chained twenty of them to the oar in the room of those we had released; but they began to be very stubborn at first; when we put the slaves to them, who soon made them work, by giving them the same usage as they generally used to receive from them.

When we had secured them, we returned God thanks for our happy success, and then consulted which way we should steer. We *English* agreed to go for *England*; but the slaves we redeemed, being mostly *Spaniards* and *Portuguese*, were for going to *Spain*. In short, there was no agreeing; for being the greatest number, they pretended to have the command over us, never considering it was to us they chiefly owed their liberty. Mr. *Matthews* spoke to them in *Spanish*, and laid before them the benefit it would be for them to go for *England*; but it was like preaching to so many beasts, for they regarded him not, but resolved to follow their first design of directing their course for *Spain*. When we found there was no remedy, we desired them to touch at *Lisbon* in *Portugal*, and set us on shore; which they consented to with much entreaty.

They would not let any of us have the command of the vessel, but one *Velasques* a *Spaniard* was chosen captain, who immediately turned out Mr. *Matthews*, that we had given the captain's cabin to, and took possession of it himself. This set us all a murmuring, and we consulted what method we should take to be even with them; but they were so watchful, and always upon their guard, that it was to no purpose to plot any thing. They used to put centinels every time we went to rest. One night we were awakened out of our sleep by orders from our new captain *Velasques*. When we came upon deck, he told us there was a ship discovered to windward of us. "Now, my reason of sending for you," said he, "is, we design to attack her, and make a prize of her, let her be of what nation she will, excepting *Spanish*." When Mr. *Matthews* had told us in *English* what he said, my indignation rose so high, that I could hardly forbear rushing upon him, and tearing his throat out; but at last my reason conquered my passion, and I became calm. I bade Mr. *Matthews* let him know he could not expect us to fight, if they were *English*, our countrymen; but he swore we should fight, or be killed, if they were our own fathers. I bade Mr. *Matthews* tell him, as for my own part, I would not fight a stroke, let it be what nation it would; and for his threatening to kill us, I did not know but it would be better to die, than to

associate with such an ungrateful crew as they were. The ship now, instead of keeping her course, as she did at first, made all the sail she could, and bore down upon us, which they did not mind in our disputing. The captain then began to change his tone, and thought it the wisest way to steer before the wind, and endeavour to get from them. Whereupon he crowded away, and so belaboured the poor *Turks* with his bastinado to row with all their strength, that I pitied them. Looking toward the ship that pursued us, we could perceive *English* colours out, which rejoiced us *English* mightily. We now consulted how we should stop the galley; for with sailing and rowing we went faster than they. At last I resolved to take a pistol and shoot him through the head, let the consequence be what it would. So I laid hold of one of the pistols unperceived (they having prepared their arms for the engagement), went up to *Velasques*, and took him by the throat with my left hand; then holding the pistol to his breast with my right, I threatened to shoot him dead if he or his men offered to stir. Several of his companions were running to his assistance, but were stopped by Mr. *Matthews*, who told them, if they offered to stir, their captain was a dead man. This bustle caused the *Turks* to lie upon their oars, and in the mean time Mr. *Sloan* brought the galley to the wind, and lay by, when the ship got up with us in an instant; and without hailing, poured in a broadside upon us, which killed two of our *Turks*, and five of our *Spaniards* (among which was that ungrateful monster *Velasques*). The wind of one of the shot threw me upon deck without any further hurt. We had no colours up but the vane upon the top-mast head, which showed us to be a *Turkish* vessel. I sent up *George Kirk* to take down that, which prevented their firing again. Upon this they hailed us. But after we told them we were *English*, they sent two boats well armed on board; and when we had satisfied them how it was with us, we seized upon our vile *Spaniards* and *Portuguese*, and bound them. We saw it was an *English* man of war; and upon inquiry, found it was the *Ruby*, captain *Walton* commander, bound after the fleet for the *West Indies*. They had met with captain *Young* and his crew steering their course for *England*, as they were so disabled through the engagement they had with the galley of the *Turks* we were in, that they durst not hold on their way. So the stores were most of them put on board the *Ruby*, and the rest were to follow as soon as they could ship them in another vessel. Now there were two men, that were passengers in captain *Young*'s ship, put on board the *Ruby* to pursue their voyage; and they seeing the galley, knew her to be the same that engaged with captain *Young* in the *Tiger*, and that was the reason they fired upon us without hailing.

I was very glad of an opportunity to pursue my voyage. I made my address to captain *Walton*, who received me in a very friendly manner. While we were consulting what we should do with our prisoners, the galley seemed to lie deeper in the water; when going to examine her, we found a shot had pierced

her between wind and water, but it was impossible to get at it to stop it; so we took what we could out of her; and going to unlock the galley-slaves chains, the key was not to be found. The galley was sinking every minute; and before we could break the chains, she sunk downright with the whole twenty poor unfortunate *Turks*, and all the *Spaniards*; who being tied, could not help themselves, neither had we time to give them any assistance. I must confess I was very much concerned to see so many poor unfortunate creatures meet with death, when it was in our power ten minutes before to have saved them. Captain *Walton* was really grieved at it, and showed a temper full of humanity. We had just brought on board the captain, and two more *Englishmen*, with the *Frenchmen*, renegados. The captain was so sullen, that he would neither eat nor drink, but intended (as we supposed) to starve himself to death. Captain *Walton* used all gentle means to bring him into temper, but to no purpose; for he would not so much as give any answer to what we asked him; and in about a week or ten days after we took him on board, he was found dead in his hammock.

Mr. *Matthews* the surgeon, *George Jenkins*, *William Ashton*, and *Ralph Smallwood*, were taken in a ship called the *Two Brothers* of *Bristol*, bound for *Scanderoon*, after an obstinate fight, where all were killed except the abovementioned four, who were taken and sold for slaves, and continued so for some years; but seizing on a boat with the four *Frenchmen* that did design to venture for their liberty with them, put to sea; and rather chose to trust to the waves, and an open boat, than stay there to be slaves for ever. But *Hamet* the renegado, whose real name was *Lewis Gordon*, having notice of their flight, followed them with a swift galley, and got sight of them. Mr. *Matthews*, who relates the story, says, "me and my companions, finding it impossible to escape, thought of a stratagem for four of us to get the good-will of the renegado *Hamet*; which was this. Seeing no likelihood of getting off, the four *English* proposed to the *French* to cast lots which four should be bound; the other four should then immediately row back, as if they had not any design of running away, and make out the best story they could. Accordingly we drew, and the chance fell upon the four *Frenchmen*. We directly bound them, and rowed back. We were soon met by the galley, where we made our tale good, by telling the *Turks*, that going a fishing with the four *Frenchmen*, they would have compelled us by force to row with them in their boat for *Spain*; but being not willing, we fell to grappling with them, and overcame them by main force, tied them, and were bringing them back. The *Frenchmen* kept true to the agreement, and never contradicted us in our story. *Hamet* upon this became very civil to us, and put us in trust. He immediately made me surgeon to the galley, Mr. *Jenkins* master of the slaves, and our two other companions had some little office that pleased them. We went several voyages with him, and took many vessels; but never met with any *English* ship before the *Tiger*, that we had the desperate

engagement with. The four *Frenchmen* were made slaves to row in another galley, which was taken about two months ago by a *Spanish* man of war; by which means they got their liberty."

We came into our old course again, and overtook an *English* vessel that had suffered much by an engagement with a *Spanish* pirate. She had lost all her masts, but had raised a jury-main-mast, yet could make but little way, by reason of her leaks. Our captain sent a boat on board, and gave them all the assistance he could. Finding it was only two days since the engagement, we had some hopes of coming up with her, as we learnt from the other ship she was mightily disabled as well as themselves. So we crowded all the sail we could; and though it was in the night, we made the best of our way. The vessel we left, saluted us with five guns to take their leave, which we answered with three; and in a quarter of an hour afterward heard several guns fired now and then, as if some vessel was in distress; and in an hour more discovered a light, which we made directly toward; and coming up with it, found it to be the *Spanish* vessel that had engaged with the other *English* ship two days before. The light that they made was only a large lanthorn fixed on their main top-mast-head, that we might the sooner perceive them. We immediately hailed them, and commanded them to surrender. They readily obeyed, and begged our assistance; which they had great need of, for the water gained upon them every moment, and in an hour's time the ship sunk; but we preserved all the men, being twenty-three in number, they having lost in the engagement with the *English* ship twenty-seven, and received several shot between wind and water, which they did not perceive till they discovered two feet water in the hold, and found no hopes of being saved from the merciless sea, if we had not providentially come to their assistance. But to allay their joy for their deliverance from death, they were made prisoners; and being pirates (as we supposed, for there was no war declared between the two nations), they might very probably think they were to be punished with death. The ship sunk so fast, that we could save nothing but the men, which took us up about four hours; when we pursued our course; and about five in the evening made the island *Barbadoes*; where we set our *Spanish* prisoners on shore. Captain *Walton* gave the governor an account of what had happened, and left the disposal of them to himself.

On *June* the 23d we set sail for *Dominico*, where we arrived without any accident. Here I went on shore along with several of our men, to get wood and water for our ship. The natives seemed very civil, and came on board us in their canoes.

I rambled with these *Indians* several miles up in the country, and saw their huts, which are digged about three feet deep in the earth, and then raised about six feet high above the surface, covered with barks of trees, and sometimes divided into apartments by a couple of long poles; where fathers, sons, and daughters lie promiscuously together.

The day before we sailed (after we had provided ourselves

with wood and water), I went up to the *Indian* huts to exchange a trifle or two for one of their bows and arrows; when returning toward the ship by myself, I lost my way; and though I directed my course right (as I thought) I came to that part of the shore where no ship was to be found; but endeavouring to go more west along the strand, my way was intercepted by some high-pointed rocks, which I made several fruitless attempts to pass. I then endeavoured to take a compass within land, to get by the rocks; which I did, but could not find the bay where the ship rode. I was now in a deep perplexity; and though very much tired, yet resolved to look for the track that would carry me back to some of the huts, where I might get an *Indian* to direct me; but there were so many various ones, that I knew not which to chuse. At last I pitched upon one that brought me to several of them, but not those from whence I came. I searched, but could find no *Indians* in them. I from thence walked a little farther, but was surprised with a sight that shocked me with horror. Near the skirt of a thick wood I found one of our men killed, with an arrow stuck in his throat. The sight of this object so overcame me, that I thought not of my own unhappy condition, till I was awakened from my stupidity by a noise and gabbling I heard in the wood on my right. This put me into a terrible fright, which made me run as far from the noise as I could; for I made no doubt, that if they caught me, I should run the same fate with the poor unfortunate fellow, who might perhaps lose his life in seeking me. When I had got a considerable distance, I entered the wood, and ventured to look out, where I could perceive, though it was almost dark, what they were doing. They cut off the poor fellow's head, and tore out his bowels in a most inhuman manner. I observed when they had done, they carried him between eight of them upon four staves, and went toward their tents. I then went farther into the wood to rest my limbs, but my thoughts kept me waking all night. When day approached I went still farther into it, not only to avoid those barbarous *Indians*, but to see if, when on the other side, I could find some path that would lead me to the bay where our ship rode; but before I could get out of it I heard a cannon discharged, which both rejoiced and grieved me. It joyed me to know that the ship could not be far off, and it grieved me to think that it was certainly the signal for the boat to come on board, and perhaps they might be that moment under sail. I ran with all the haste I could; but in a state of mind mixed with hope and fear. I got out of the wood at last, and directed my course to that part as I thought the noise of the gun came from, but could find no path; yet at last I got to the top of a rock, from whence I could behold the sea; when with great grief I saw our ship under sail not half a league from the shore. I immediately pulled off my shirt, and hung it on a stick I had broke to support me in my walking; but my signal did not do me any good, for they saw nothing of it. As soon as the ship was out of sight, I went down from the rock,

and endeavoured to find some food, but was prevented by a hideous noise I heard, which drove me to shelter in the wood again; but the farther I went on, the plainer I heard it; so that I knew not what to do, for at last it increased on every side. Coming to a parcel of thick shrubs, I laid myself down, and couched so close, that it was impossible for them to see me, unless they came into the very middle of it. I had thrown my bow and arrows away, as being of no use to me; but I had my sword, which however I did not design to use. The noise came so nigh me, that I could hear the tread of their feet, and the boughs rustle about me; but at last it insensibly went away, so that I heard no more of them for some time.

When I found all was still, I began to get up and look about me, when I saw them in the plain engaged with several other *Indians*, whom I thought I knew, though at a good distance. I saw several of them fall upon the ground. At last those *Indians* that went hallooing through the wood seemed to me to have the worst of it, and were drove by the other party quite back again. They did not pursue them any farther, only let fly their arrows at them. One of them came among the shrubs where I lay, which startled me, for I was afraid they would come to look for their arrows, and so find me. After the hurlyburly was over, I resolved to go out of the wood, and follow those *Indians* that were vanquishers, with the hope that they might be of a milder nature, and not so barbarous as the others, who run through the wood, that to my thinking had more stern looks than those *Indians* I had seen upon that part of the island where we used to land to get wood and water. So as I said, I got up, and directed my course out of the wood after the *Indians*, but saw two *Indian* men, and four women, coming toward me, whom I supposed had hid themselves during the late conflict. It was to no purpose to fly, for they had got sight of me; or if I had, they would soon have sent one of their winged messengers after me; so I chose boldly to meet them. When we were come within forty paces of each other, one of them was going to shoot at me, but was withheld by one of the women. As soon as ever I came close to them, they looked upon me with strange gestures and distorted countenances. I put my hand to my head and breast, which is the token of submission with the *Indians*; and they let me know by signs that I must go with them, which I did not deny. I gave my handkerchief and neckloth to the woman that prevented the *Indian* shooting at me, who received it with a great deal of joy, and seemed mightily pleased with me. When we arrived at their huts, there came out at least a hundred frightful-looking *Indians*, who surrounded me, and had a great deal of talk with those that brought me with them. They gave me some rice, and another sort of victuals boiled. When night came, I was sent into a hut by myself, and the door shut upon me. I had a piece of mat to lie on, but nothing to cover me. In the morning I was awakened by four of the eldest *Indians* that came to visit me, who made signs to me to follow them,

which I did without any hesitation. When I was in the midst of the plain place fronting the doors of their huts, they brought before me several of their women, and gave me to know by signs that I should take one of them to be my mate, or bedfellow, or suffer death. Not wishing for the latter, I immediately pitched upon her that I had given my neckcloth and handkerchief to, when all the rest were instantly dismissed, and my bride and I conducted to a hut, where there were several old *Indians* waiting to complete the ceremony. When my bride and I came before them, we were ordered to sit down; then both our feet were washed with water; after that, they brought us a piece of their *Indian* cake, made of bread; of which I was ordered to break off a piece, and give it to my bride. She then came and laid her head upon my breast; and kneeling, put my right foot upon her neck. When that was done, she rose and went out, but quickly returned, and brought me some flesh broiled on the coals; which she tore into morsels, and put in my mouth, standing before me all the while I ate. When I had done eating, my bride and I were put into a hut, and shut close without any light. In the morning we were awaked with a rude noise round our tent, which startled me at first; but I found afterward it was a sort of epithalamium.

When they had made their frightful noise for some time, they entered promiscuously, men and women. The men came and took hold of me, and the women of my new spouse, and led us out with shouts, unpleasing noises, and antic gestures; which they continued till we came to a river; and then we parted, the men with me, and the women with my wife. The men put me in the river, and washed me all over. I suppose the women served my tawny rib in the same manner. After they had given notice by their shouts that they had made an end of scouring me, they put on my shirt and drawers, and led me to the bank, where my spouse waited for me with her female attendants. We then returned with the same noise as we set out. When we came to the huts, the old *Indians* met us. The men took me, and the women my wife, and gave us an entertainment separately, which lasted two hours. They then brought us out of our tents, and seated us on a bank; when they danced before us, and played a variety of the most antic gambols. When this sport was over, the young *Indians* of both sexes took my bride and me into one of their huts, and gave us an entertainment of fish broiled upon the coals, and a pleasant liquor in a calabash, that was exceeding strong, which soon got into our noddles. When night came, we retired to our rest as before, and were waked next morning by a rude knocking at our door (or rather basket, for it was nothing else); when five or six of the old *Indians* came in with hatchets, and other instruments, to enable us to get food for ourselves, as I understood. My wife took me out by the arm, and carried me into the wood, with our bows and arrows; when by signs she gave me to understand, that she would bring me where I should kill some creature. At last we came to

the foot of a hill, which we ascended with some difficulty; but when we had gained the summit, we discovered vast herds of goats. My spouse shot, and killed one the first time; but I was such a bungler at it, that I could never do any execution. As soon as we had skinned our goat, we took out our implements, and made a fire to broil it. When it was ready, my wife and I sat down, and regaled ourselves very comfortably; for she was of a mighty mild nature, very loving, and nothing like the rest of the savage crew, who are prone to all manner of wickedness. In short, she had a very pleasing manner; and I really began to love her. She could pronounce any word in *English* that I would say to her, but I could never get her to repeat whole sentences; and all she did was like a parrot. After we had done our hunting work, I was for going over the hill to view the country, and walked up and down a good way. But I observed my wife was very uneasy, especially when I got to the brow of the hill. On the other side, which was about half a league over, I made an essay to go down. She laid hold of my arm, pulled me back with all her force, and with many supplicating actions seemed to beg of me not to go. When she found I was offering at it again, she screamed out so dismally, that it affrighted me from making any more attempts. I endeavoured to know what she meant, but could gather nothing from her words or actions, that might let me into any thing; yet she would often handle her bow and arrows, and with menacing actions let me know there was some danger. As we went homeward, this odd accident ran very much in my head, and I was mighty desirous to find out the meaning of it. Every time I went to hunt there with my wife, I wanted sadly to get down the hill on the other side. This hill was of a vast length, and extended from east to south-west, almost across the island. I did not know how to contrive it; but after hunting, pretending to be very much tired, I laid myself down, in order to sleep; when my wife, with her usual good humour, accompanied me; and in a very little time I found she was in a sound sleep. I immediately arose, and stole away softly upon my intended journey. I got away from her without her awaking, and came to the brow of the hill, which I surveyed, and found no difficulty in descending. When I got to the bottom, I was mightily pleased with the evenness of the ground, and the prospect round me. I had walked up and down the vale for near an hour, and was preparing to go back the same way I came; when looking back to take my last survey, I saw a smoke at a distance; and it ran in my mind it was the very place that our men used to go to from on board, to truck with the inhabitants. This thought took up some of my time; and I believe, if it had not been through a tender regard for my wife, I had certainly directed my course to the smoke I saw there. But I must confess, I could not think of leaving her behind me; when curiosity put it into my head to go a little nearer the smoke I had discovered. But just as I was moving that way, I heard a dreadful screaming behind me; when turning about,

I saw my wife upon the brow of the hill, making the most pitiful lamentation imaginable. The affection I now began to have for her caused me to make all the haste I could to her relief, as thinking some mischance might have befallen her. When I came to the bottom of the hill, I saw several of the *Indians* of our neighbourhood waiting for me above, and some were coming down. As soon as I had got to the top of the hill, I was immediately seized by the *Indians* above, and dragged along as if I had been the greatest criminal imaginable, my poor wife hanging upon my arm drowned in tears. I could not imagine what was the matter, nor their reason for using me in such a manner. I imagined it must be something extraordinary by the grief of my wife, whose sorrow increased the further I went toward our huts; but before we could get there, it rained and thundered so violently, that we were all well washed by the time we came to our journey's end. When we were within sight of our huts, the whole tribe came near us, some skipping and dancing, as though mightily rejoiced; others with the face of concern, hanging their heads in sign of sorrow, and grievously lamenting over my wife. After the old *Indians* had consulted some time, they tied me to a withered tree that stood at the mouth of the huts. I then began to understand what they meant, for I could perceive they were bringing boughs of green wood, in order to burn me. This sight made my courage fail. I looked upon the last day of my life as being now arrived. My only resource was to the maker and giver of all good things. As for my wife, she was so overcome with rage and despair, that she was carried away by the women in the utmost agony. After she was gone, they set fire to the wood that enclosed me; which being green and wet with the late rain, was a great while in burning. All the time it was kindling, some of the *Indians* jumped round me, and danced after their barbarous manner, while others stood ready with their bows and arrows to shoot at me, if the fire should burn the bands that tied me, and I should offer to run away. The wood being green, was very stubborn in kindling; which made the apprehension more dreadful. I made several attempts to break the bands that held me, but all my efforts were in vain; and I observed every time I made my fruitless endeavours, the barbarous crew shouted, and laughed for joy. The fire increasing, I now had given myself up entirely to the thoughts of the other world. But before the fire reached me, there fell such a prodigious shower of rain, mixed with thunder and lightning, that extinguished it. The storm lasted several hours with the utmost violence, and I remained still tied to a tree. When it was over, they began to renew their fire, and brought the fuel nearer than before, it being at first half a yard from my body all round; but now they piled it so close to me, that the fire might the sooner be my executioner, which I wished for, as knowing it would put me to a speedier death. But before they had well placed the wood, they heard shouts and noises in the adjacent woods; upon which the *Indians* im-

mediately ran away from me, and took to their arms in an instant, old and young. The noise came nearer and nearer, till at last I could perceive several *Indians* bolt out of the woods, who were met by our *Indians*, when a bloody fight ensued. The enemy *Indians* seemed to have the best of it, by reason of some fire-arms that they had, with which they made strange havoc among our *Indians*. The battle continued some hours with a great deal of heat, and many of our *Indians* fell. At last the enemy *Indians* drove ours even beyond the huts, and I could only hear the noise they made, for I was still fastened to the tree. The fight continued out of sight about half an hour, when my wife came running with all the transports of joy imaginable; and after having put her head under my feet, she untied me, and fell upon me with all the signs of a sincere love. I must confess I was mightily rejoiced to see myself at liberty; for let what would happen, my condition could not be worse than it was some hours ago. I could not forbear expressing my love to my wife by kisses and embraces. We went to our hut, and I took my sword, which had been laid up from my first being among them. I was going out of my tent, in order to retire with my spouse to some other part of the island that was not known to these *Indians*; but just as we came among the tents, three of them met us, who I conjectured had run away from the fight. As soon as they saw us, they came up with a great deal of ill-nature in their countenances; and after some talk with my wife, one of them with his wooden club went to make a blow at me; but she interposing, received it full upon her head; which struck her to the ground, quite senseless. My rage rose so high upon this, that I could not contain myself. I instantly drew my sword, and thrust it to the hilt in the wretch's body. The other two seeing their companion's death, ran upon me with the rage of lions; but I stepping on one side, avoided the strokes intended me. They turned immediately, and levelled several blows at me, which happily missed me, when I ran one of them into the throat with my sword. Upon which he set up such a cry that frightened me; when he ran away, and was immediately followed by the other. I then flew to the assistance of my wife, who lay almost strangled in her own blood. I raised her from the earth, and seated her under the tree where I was tied, when I brought her to herself a little, but found her skull was fractured, and to my great grief perceived she was just expiring. But the sorrow and tenderness she showed by her actions struck me to the soul. She laid one arm about my waist, and her head in my lap, but with such piteous looks in her eyes that almost distracted me. She made signs to me to look upward (as I fancied) to pray for her, though I could not tell for certain what she meant; but she pronounced several words with earnestness and passion. Before she expired, the enemy *Indians* returned with the whole of our *Indian* prisoners, I mean all they had not killed; for out of two hundred *Indians* of our party, there was not above twenty-two left. They were very much

surprised to find me, for many of the enemy *Indians* knew me; and when I came to examine their faces, I remembered they were those that inhabited about the bay where our ship lay. One or two of them could speak a little *English*, which they learned by conversing with those that usually anchored in the bay. One of them knew my name, which he had gathered from our sailors inquiring for me, when sent by the captain before the ship sailed. "Master *Falconer*," said he, "me be glad to see you; white men belong to big ships come look for you very great, and not look you here, go away, much sorry." My wife took up all my thoughts, who was just dying; and though her strength and speech failed her, yet she endeavoured to pull my face down to hers, which she kissed; then sunk her head into my bosom, and expired. I was really as much concerned as if I had married one of my own complexion and country; for I had great hopes, if ever I could make my escape with her, and teach her *English*, to make her a good *Christian*. With the assistance of my now friendly *Indians*, I laid her in the earth. They told me, she was daughter to one of the chiefs of their enemy tribe.

From these *Indians* I learned, that those I had fell among were a tribe that had lived on this side the ridge of mountains for many years, and declared open war with those of the other side for holding correspondence with the Whites; and were so strict, that they put all *Indians* to death that ever attempted singly to go over the mountains; which was the reason of my danger of being burnt. The women that they took (all that were with child) were shot, and the men in general ran the same fate; for they were resolved not to have any of the breed alive. When they plundered the huts, they went through the woods, over the mountains again, and so to their own huts, which I knew. The old men and women met them, skipping and dancing for joy of their success; and some mourning for a husband, brother, or father, that was slain in battle. These friendly *Indians* were often plagued with their sudden rushing upon them, and destroying many of them; till at last they took up a resolution to assault them, and if possible to extirpate the whole race. They had often made inroads upon them, which lessened their number, till this last ended them, as I said before. The women and female children dwelt contentedly among them, being they had no where to go. I began to live comfortably with these *Indians*, and used to partake of their diversion and labour, as hunting, fishing, &c. They were so expert in shooting with their bows and arrows, that I have seen them hit the mark three hundred yards, within the compass of a half crown.

I used to go fishing in their canoes with them, when they would catch good store; and let it be what it would, the cargo was equally divided among the whole tribe, only he that caught them chose first.

I told *Will*, that as soon as a ship arrived there, I designed to embark in her, in order to pursue my voyage. But he told me I must take care not to let any of the other *Indians* know it; for

they would never suffer any to return, after they had been once settled among them. I waited a full month before I could see any vessel; but at last one came into the harbour; when I had the good fortune to make my escape, together with my companion *Indian Will*.

When we had lost sight of *Dominico*, I asked *Indian Will* the reason of their endeavouring to detain all Whites in that clandestine manner; and he gave me to know, that they feared if the Whites should know the smallness of their number, that they would put them all to death, and seize upon the whole island. The ship that took us up was called the *Twins* from *Carolina*, captain *Fuller* commander; she came then from *Barbadoes*, and was bound for *Jamaica*. I took *Indian Will* as my servant, and did design to give him some clothes as soon as we arrived at *Jamaica*; but for the present I had none for myself; my beard was pretty long, and being something inclining to red, looked but oddly: my linen was all gone, so that my whole dress consisted of a hat, a waistcoat, a pair of breeches, and a pair of shoes. The captain was so kind as to lend me a shirt and a pair of stockings, and I got my beard off, and once more looked like a *Christian*. We made *Jamaica*, without meeting any thing material, and found the fleet at anchor. I went on board the admiral, and paid my respects to him, which he took very kindly. I there once more met with my friend Mr. *Musgrave*, and the rest of my companions, who had given me over for lost; for captain *Walton* told the admiral and my comrades, that I was certainly murdered by the *Indians*. I had all my things restored me, which were brought in the *Albion* frigate, that arrived about a week before me with the stores of the fleet, after she had been in the dock at *Plymouth*, and well mended.

On *May* the 5th, we entered *St. John's* harbour in *Newfoundland*, and staid there till *May* the 12th; when we set sail for the *Bay of Bulls*, a convenient harbour for wood and water in the same island. After we had provided every thing we wanted there, we weighed anchor in order to sail for *England*. In weighing our best bower (an anchor so called), the nippers giving way, the capstern-bars killed three of our men, and broke the back of a fourth, who died soon after.

November the 1st, we were separated from the fleet by a dreadful storm, that threw all our masts by the board; our bolt-sprit was also sprung; but we fished that, which preserved it. We also lost two of our men, who fell with the main-mast overboard. The storm lasted two days, and the weather continued so hazy, that we could not take our observations. We put up our jury-masts, but could make little way. We had a company of marines on board; so that having above our complement, our provision began to be at an ebb; which obliged us all to come to half allowance, and half a pint of water a day to each man; for we did not know how long we should be out at sea. But we made *Ireland*, beyond all our hopes, *Nov.* 20, and got safe into *Galway* harbour, *Nov.* 23. It was very providential we did so;

for on the 25th there arose such a violent storm, that it must have inevitably destroyed us. There were two ships in this harbour that were stranded; and it was allowed by every body we should have run the same fate, if our masts had been standing; but having none beside jury-masts, which we took down when the storm began to be pretty high, the wind could not have the same power over us.

We staid at *Galway* four months; in which time we had got masts up, and repaired our other damages. While the ship was fitting up, I lay on shore.

Galway is a neat fortified town, as big as *Salisbury*, yet has but one church. Every thing is very cheap there. I had my board in a private house for four shillings a week, and seldom dined without two or three dishes at table. We bought the best *French* wine for fourteen pence a quart, and sometimes under. We set sail from *Galway*, Feb. 27, 1704, and arrived safely at the town of *Plymouth*, in *Old England*. 1704

Thus, after many misfortunes, I once more set my feet upon my dear native country, accompanied by *Indian Will*, who still lives with me, and proves an honest faithful servant. I have taken pains to have him instructed in the *Christian* religion, and have likewise had him baptised by the name of *William Dominico*, from the island that he came from.

Though warned by the many dangers I had run, I could not forbear making three voyages more, though in a different station from what I went before. But as they were only common voyages, that is nothing extraordinary happening, I shall conclude with my prayers and thanks to heaven for the many mercies I have received; wishing long life and happiness to my king; prosperity, peace, and riches to my country; and a hearty union among my fellow-subjects.



Printed by S. FISHER, No. 10, St John's Lane, Clerkenwell.

Bayrische
Staatsbibliothek
München

Chetwood, William R.,

The voyages, travels, dangerous adventures and imminent escapes of Capt.
Richard Falconer

London [1801]

It.sing. 1451 i

urn:nbn:de:bvb:12-bsb10469402-1